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POLL RESULTS

Do you support Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro's resolution that rejects improved immigration status for long-term legal alien workers in the CNMI?

| | |
|------------|-----|
| Yes | 66 |
| No | 171 |
| Maybe | 6 |
| No opinion | 4 |

Sunday, November 24, 2013

INSIDE

BUSINESS



The Federal Communications Commission might be ready to permit cellphone calls in flight.

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ASIA



The death toll from one of the strongest typhoons on record has risen above 5,000 and is likely to climb further.

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LIEF & STYLE



The Hunger Games: Catching Fire" is a scorching hit at the box office.

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Hundreds of jobseekers show up at job fair. PAGE 2
A disappearing state, Kiribati. PAGE 15

Senate weighs support for CNMI provision in US immigration bills

» **As Torres says Senate 'moves on' after court ruling on vacancy appointment**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) said the Senate is weighing its support of a provision in pending U.S. immigration reform bills that allows pathway to citizenship for long-term legal aliens in the CNMI, considering that senators in the previous Legislature supported improved status for the same group of nonresidents on the islands.



At the same time, Torres said the Senate "moves on" after a Supreme Court

See SENATE on Page 4



FOR TYPHOON VICTIMS

United Filipino Organization members and volunteers sort on Saturday night a huge volume of donated clothes, beddings, and other footwear for survivors of Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda in the Philippines. At least 47 boxes were sorted at the LBC office in Susupe on Saturday night. LBC has offered to ship the in-kind donations free of charge. Across the CNMI, private businesses, groups and individuals have also been raising funds towards typhoon relief efforts.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



instead of Tinian, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said in an interview yesterday.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Sablan have been working with the U.S. House Armed Services Committee on a legislation language that "limits the

Air Force authority to spend a dime unless certain conditions are met" related to the divert airfield in the CNMI.

The delegate said the language will give the CNMI governor authority "to get as much as we can out of this divert airfield (project)."

He said while the CNMI does not want to lose the project, "we're not going to give it

See MILITARY on Page 4

CNMI eyes conditions in \$90M US military divert airfield project

» **Kilili says Legislature could have set aside \$200K for environmental expert to review military studies**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI does not want to lose a \$90-million U.S. Air Force divert airfield project to another place such as Palau or the Philippines but it seeks conditions for the U.S. military if it insists on placing the alternative airfield on Saipan



Sablan

Anniversary of JFK death brings sadness, solemnity

By JAMIE STENGLE and
NOMAAN MERCHANT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS (AP)—It was the same time, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Nov. 22. It was the same place, downtown Dallas.

But 50 years later, the thousands of people who filled Dealey Plaza weren't there to cheer but to remember in quiet sadness the young, handsome president with whom Dallas will always be "linked in tragedy."

The solemn ceremony presided over

by Mayor Mike Rawlings was the first time the city had organized an official Kennedy anniversary event, issuing 5,000 free tickets and erecting a stage with video screens.

See ANNIVERSARY on Page 4

AP
A man leaves the area after a ceremony to mark the 50th anniversary of the assassination of John F. Kennedy, Friday, Nov. 22, 2013, at Dealey Plaza in Dallas. President Kennedy's motorcade was passing through Dealey Plaza when shots rang out on Nov. 22, 1963.



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Local

Hundreds of jobseekers show up at job fair



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Some jobseekers inquire from employers during the opening of the two-day job fair on Friday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. Hundreds of job applicants showed up and more than 20 employers participated the fair conducted by the CNMI Works! Target 2014 Task Force.

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

CNMI Works! Target 2014

Task Force.

Acting Labor Secretary Edith Deleon Guerrero in an interview on Friday said more than 20 employers joined the job fair and that a lot of big hotels participated.

Deleon Guerrero said Public Law 110-229 (federalization law) calls for a full transition of foreign workers out of the CNMI by Dec. 2014.

At the same time, she said, the CNMI is requesting for a five-year extension to hire foreign workers.

"So in the law itself, it does not require the U.S. Secretary of Labor to make a decision until 180 days before the expiration

day of the law, which is December 2014. So we are looking at maybe June or July next year," the acting Labor secretary said.

The job fair, she pointed out, is really to allow companies to come in and be part of the program and also to allow all those individuals in the CNMI that are looking for work to come out and apply.

The CNMI, Deleon Guerrero said, is hopeful that it can fill up the pipeline.

"We need about 14,000 workers to fill the private sector. That's a huge number," she said.

Deleon Guerrero said they conducted the job fair until Saturday to allow high school students the opportunity to join.

"A lot of high school students are looking for part-time work, maybe full-time jobs after high school time," she said.

The job fair, Deleon Guerrero said, allows the government programs to network with the employers and to network with the individuals.

"Many in the community may not know what kind of services are available out there. So this is a great opportunity for everybody to just come together and network," she said.

Vicky Benavente, Pacific Islands Club executive assistant for the general manager, said the PIC Saipan was asked to join the job fair and that she is also a member of the CNMI Works! Target 2014 Task Force.

Benavente said human resources is very important to the hotels.

"In any way we can assist our community to develop the talent, develop human resources, this is why we are here," she said.

At the moment, Benavente said, as they are telling everyone at the fair, although they have zero opening at PIC, they

See HUNDREDS on Next Page

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Re-transfer of hospital land no impact to CHC line of credit

» \$3M loan for hospital due in four months

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The return or retransfer of the public lands earlier awarded to the public hospital will not in any way impact the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s ability to repay its \$3-million loan from the Marianas Public Land Trust despite the corporation paying only the monthly interest of the obligation.

It was last year when MPLT provided the hospital another \$3-million line of credit, which among the encumbered property is the two parcels of land adjacent to the CHC with total of 38,500 square meters. Just recently, the Inos administration has reclaimed the property citing that it is the best interest of the CNMI if the lands will continue to be under the Department of Public Lands.

It was in January 2012 when former governor Benigno Fitial assigned to the CHCC parcels of land in Navy Hill which the corporation can derive revenues through opening the properties to leases.

The Inos administration's wish to get back the property was ex-

HUNDREDS

From Page 2

are always on the lookout for talent for those who want to join the company and start up, be developed or get experience.

"We never know, tomorrow some are going to resign, moving off-island. So this is a chance for PIC to see what's up there as far as the labor calls," Deleon Guerrero said.

Juan Taman, 25, was one of the job applicants who trooped to the Multi-Purpose Center on Friday. He has two children and lost his job as an animal health technician with the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Taman has been seeking for a job from the private sector for six months now. In that six-month period, he had submitted job applications from at least two private companies, but was not fortunate to be hired.

"I want to apply to be a cashier at a gas station," Taman told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that he really wants to get more experience considering that he is only a high school graduate.

Looking at the number of people who participated at the job fair, Taman acknowledged that there's a lot of competition. He, however, is still hopeful that something fruitful will come out of his applications.

"Still young and still looking for job," said the beaming Taman as he was waiting for his turn to fill up his application.

The last job expo, which was in October 2011, attracted nearly 900 job applicants.

pressed to the corporation in light of disclosures that a federal agency is interested in leasing the property from the CHCC.

It can be recalled that in April this year, the CHCC board has approved to offer for lease a portion of the designated public lands as a means to generate revenue for the hospital. The decision to open for lease was reached following receipt of a proposal from Landscape Management Systems Inc. in Guam, which wants to respond to an announcement by the U.S. government's General Services Administration.

GSA had announced that it is seeking to lease a property on Saipan where it can build a courtroom, administrative office, and law enforcement office. Landscape Management System, using CHCC property for its plan, wants to respond to this announcement. A protest was later received by the Corporation from other interested party and a case is now pending in court.

"There's no impact at all. I believe there's a big improvement at CHC in reference to collections and billing and MPLT is confident on its (paying) ability," MPLT board chair Pedro Deleon Guerrero admitted to *Saipan Tribune*.

According to the board chairman, the \$3 million loaned out to the CHCC will be maturing in four months—or until March 12, 2014. To date, CHCC is making diligent payments but only to the monthly loan interest amounting to over \$17,000.

Deleon Guerrero said he is confident that on or before the deadline CHCC would be able to make the full payment of the loan as what it did last year when it CHCC paid in full the \$3 million principal to MPLT. The chairman encouraged the corporation to make early payment of

the obligation so it could avail the next line of credit that could help the hospital operation.

"CHCC has been making

good on the monthly interest payment in the amount of more than \$17,000. A balloon payment of the \$3M is due on March 12, 2013; however, CHCC may at anytime make such payment.

And, if they do have the funds, I encourage CHCC to do so in the interest of them saving the more than \$17,000 monthly interest payment to MPLT," added the chairman.

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CNMI engages feds more on birth tourism, CW extension

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) are drafting another joint letter to the U.S. Depart-

ment of Homeland Security offering more specific suggestions on how to curb "birth tourism" in the CNMI. Sablan also said while the U.S. Department of Labor has yet to decide on the CNMI's request to extend by

five years the transitional CW program, there remains no reason given such request won't be granted.

The governor and delegate's joint letter is expected to be sent as early as this week.

Sablan said among the specific suggestions is for DHS, or its Customs and Border Protection, to also recommend to signatory airlines—such as Asiana Airlines—to thoroughly screen the passengers com-

city will forever be linked in tragedy, yes," Rawlings said. "But out of tragedy, an opportunity was granted to us: how to face the future when it's the darkest and uncertain."

Historian David McCullough said Kennedy "spoke to us in that now-distant time past, with a vitality and sense of purpose such as we had never heard before."

Kennedy "was young to be president, but it didn't seem so if you were younger still," McCullough added. "He was ambitious to make it a better world, and so were we."

Past anniversaries in Dealey Plaza have been marked mostly by loose gatherings of the curious and conspiracy-minded, featuring everything from makeshift memorials and marching drummers to free-wheeling discussions about others who might have been in on the killing.

On Friday, the mayor unveiled a plaque with remarks the president was supposed to deliver later that day in Dallas. Rawlings' comments were followed by a mournful tolling of bells and a moment of silence at the precise time that Kennedy was shot.

In Dallas, the dreary weather was far different from the bright sunshine that filled the day of the assassination. But that did not

stop crowds from lining up hours before the ceremonies began.

Drew Carney and his girlfriend, Chelsea Medwechuk traveled from Toronto to attend the ceremony. Like many of those in attendance, they wore plastic ponchos to ward off the rain.

At 25 and 24, respectively, they were born a quarter-century after Kennedy died. Carney, a high school history teacher, said he became intrigued with Kennedy and his ideals as a teenager.

"It filled you with such hope," he said.

Elsewhere, flags were lowered to half-staff and wreaths were laid at Kennedy's presidential library and at a waterfront memorial near the family's Cape Cod compound.

Shortly after sunrise, Attorney General Eric Holder paid his respects at Kennedy's recently refurbished grave at Arlington National Cemetery, where a British cavalry officer stood guard, bagpipes played and a flame burned steadily as it has since Kennedy was buried.

About an hour later, Jean Kennedy Smith, 85, the last surviving Kennedy sibling, laid a wreath at her brother's grave, joined by about 10 members of the Kennedy family. They clasped hands for a short, silent

prayer and left roses as a few hundred onlookers watched.

In Boston, Gov. Deval Patrick and Maj. Gen. Scott Rice of the Massachusetts National Guard endured a heavy rain during a wreath-laying ceremony at the Kennedy statue on the front lawn of the Statehouse. The statue, dedicated in 1990, has been largely off-limits to public viewing since security procedures put in place after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. But the area was opened to visitors Friday.

Both of Kennedy's grandfathers served in the Massachusetts Legislature, and in January 1961 the president-elect came to the Statehouse to deliver one of his most famous addresses, which came to be known as the "City on a Hill" speech, just before leaving for his inauguration in Washington.

The tributes extended across the Atlantic to Kennedy's ancestral home in Ireland.

In Dublin, a half-dozen Irish soldiers toting guns with brilliantly polished bayonets formed an honor guard outside the U.S. Embassy as the American flag was lowered to half-staff. An Irish army commander at the embassy drew a sword and held it aloft as a lone trumpeter played "The Last Post," the traditional British salute to war dead.

ing in to the CNMI.

The delegate said it took the CNMI years and a lot of efforts to regain its good name, and they do not want birth tourism—which he said remains a small issue—to ruin the regained good reputation.

"The governor and I continue to provide options that are not discriminatory, best practices," he added.

Sablan also reiterated that U.S. Labor will decide on the

CNMI's requested extension of the CW program before the end of the year.

He said U.S. Labor has been communicating with other federal agencies such as DHS and the Department of Defense on the matter.

Sablan said in his view, a 14,000 cap on the number of CW workers for fiscal year 2014 is an indication that the transitional program will be extended beyond Dec. 31, 2014.

ANNIVERSARY

From Page 1

Somber remembrances extended from Dallas to the shores of Cape Cod, with moments of silence, speeches by historians and, above all, simple reverence for a time and a leader long gone.

"We watched the nightmarish reality in our front yard," Rawlings told the crowd, which assembled just steps from the Texas School Book Depository building where Lee Harvey Oswald fired from the sixth floor at Kennedy's open-top limousine. "Our president had been taken from us, taken from his family, taken from the world."

Two generations later, the assassination still stirs quiet sadness in the baby boomers who remember it as the beginning of a darker, more cynical time.

"A new era dawned and another waned a half-century ago, when hope and hatred collided right here in Dallas," Rawlings told the crowd that gathered under gray skies and in near-freezing temperatures. The mayor said the slaying prompted Dallas to "turn civic heartbreak into hard work" and helped the city mature into a more tolerant, welcoming metropolis.

The slain president "and our

city will forever be linked in tragedy, yes," Rawlings said. "But out of tragedy, an opportunity was granted to us: how to face the future when it's the darkest and uncertain."

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MILITARY

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away that easily."

"Let me put it this way: We're going to make it as difficult as possible for the Air Force to build it anywhere besides Tinian with the caveat of course that if we make it impossible, they could go elsewhere and I don't think Governor Inos and I want to go there," Sablan said.

The CNMI is unified in asking the military to place the divert airfield on Tinian, where two-thirds of the lands are already under lease to the U.S. Department of Defense.

But the Air Force prefers to build the divert airfield on Saipan, which meets most of the selection standards including access to fuel vessels that Tinian does not have.

DoD has delayed the release of an environmental impact statement and Record of Decision on the proposed divert airfield that the U.S. Air Force can use in the event that access to Andersen Air Force Base in Guam is limited or denied.

Sablan said the phased-in divert airfield project is estimated at \$90 million, which could help generate revenue for the CNMI that only has a \$123.4-million

budget for fiscal year 2014.

"We don't want to lose that. Governor Inos does not want to throw that away. But the \$90 million also doesn't mean we're blind just because it's \$90 million. We also have some concerns here," the delegate added.

The governor earlier told the Air Force that its request to lease 33 acres of land on Saipan for the next 50 years "is quite an undesirable conclusion as it would impede future commercial development in the area."

The Saipan area considered for lease related to the divert airfield includes historic sites such as the pre-war Japanese airfield in As Lito. But there is no formal plan presented to CNMI officials yet on Saipan land lease. Sablan conceded that the CNMI cannot dictate military actions "but we can certainly make sure that they give us their highest attention that we ask."

"Right now, the language that we have (put) together doesn't even say Saipan. The conversation continues to grow and become more specific," he said.

In August, the governor told acting Secretary of the Air Force Eric Fanning that cost consideration as a factor in placing the divert airfield on Saipan instead of Tinian is "unsubstantiated" and "perhaps an indefensible

legal position."

'Cry in shame'

Sablan, meanwhile, said it's a "cry in shame" that the CNMI cannot hire an independent environmental expert to review all the environmental impact statements, or EIS, and other military studies and documents affecting the CNMI.

"The real fight is in the EIS. We need to fully understand these pages after pages of the environmental impact study. If we are going to do something about it, and some people say we should block it, in terms of Pagan, even Tinian...to make sure we protect our islands. Before we can argue our side, we need to fully understand what is being studied and what do those studies say," he said.

The delegate has asked the CNMI Legislature if it could set aside some \$200,000 so that the administration can hire an independent environmental expert to go through every military EIS and other studies affecting the CNMI including the proposed live fire training ranges on Tinian and Pagan and the expanded use of Farallon De Mendinilla and other training areas in the Marianas.

He said if a mayor's office, for example, could hire a con-

sultant for \$80,000 for two years to advocate against military use of islands, then the Legislature could do more.

"We got to use our money wisely, spend it wisely on something that will bring us tangible results," he said.

Unlike Guam which has invested in independent experts to help it review military plans and strategies vis-à-vis their Guam impacts, the CNMI has not.

Sablan said it is a bit disappointing that this has not become a priority.

"This is where we need to do the fight, in the EIS. But where is the priority?" he said.

The CNMI House of Representatives, meanwhile, has been contemplating on introducing a resolution opposing the use of Pagan in the Northern Islands for live-fire military training. In the CNMI, live-fire training by the U.S. military is only done on FDM at present, but this could change to include Tinian and Pagan.

Joint Region Marianas commander Rear Admiral Tilghman Payne told the media on Nov. 11 that residents' concerns about the proposed use of Pagan for live-fire training are being taken into consideration.

ing in to the CNMI.

The delegate said it took the CNMI years and a lot of efforts to regain its good name, and they do not want birth tourism—which he said remains a small issue—to ruin the regained good reputation.

"The governor and I continue to provide options that are not discriminatory, best practices," he added.

Sablan also reiterated that U.S. Labor will decide on the

CNMI's requested extension of the CW program before the end of the year.

He said U.S. Labor has been communicating with other federal agencies such as DHS and the Department of Defense on the matter.

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SENATE

From Page 1

ruling on the appointment of a replacement for former senator Juan Ayuyu.

This, after Sen. Joaquin Borja (Ind-Tinian) questioned the high court decision that paved the way for the appointment of Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) to complete Ayuyu's term ending in January 2015, as well as Borja's new appointment based on the 2012 election results that he said should therefore give him a four-year term ending January 2017, instead of only up to January 2015 based on the 2009 race.

"A decision has already been made by the court and the Senate has already decided on it.

It's time for us to move on and address the CNMI's pressing concerns such as the economy," Torres said. Manglona himself echoed Torres' statement.

The Senate will hold a session tomorrow on Rota, and there's no telling whether the court ruling on vacancy appointments at the Senate or a resolution on aliens' improved status will be brought up.

"We will revisit the 17th Senate resolution supporting improved status for aliens, and compare it with what the U.S. immigration bills are proposing. The Senate had already previously taken a position supporting improved status," Torres told *Saipan Tribune*.

In 2011 during the 17th Senate, senators adopted then senator and now lieutenant governor Jude U. Hofschneider's resolution recommending U.S. Congress to grant nonresident workers who have been in the CNMI for at least 10 years as of May 2008 a status "similar" to those granted to Freely Associated States.

At the time, it was only the CNMI Senate that came up with a position on the issue of aliens' long-term status.

Should the Senate come up with a new resolution supporting improved status for long-term legal aliens in the CNMI as contained in S. 744 and H.R. 15, then it would be the exact opposite of a House resolution authored by Rep. Felicidad Oguimoro (R-Saipan) that essentially asked Congress to eliminate the improved status for CNMI legal aliens in any U.S. national immigration reform bill.

Oguimoro's resolution got 13 "yes" votes and five "no" votes with two absences after

the House Foreign and Federal Relations Committee chaired by Rep. Trenton Conner (Ind-Tinian) recommended its adoption.

This, despite concerns from Gov. Eloy S. Inos that the House resolution's intent runs contrary to the goal of having a unified voice for the CNMI, considering that Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) worked to get the CNMI-specific provision in national immigration reform bills.

Sablan, in an interview yesterday, once again called on CNMI lawmakers to read the entire S. 744 and H.R. 15 to fully understand that the CNMI-specific provision "actually reduces the impact of what they are afraid of."

Without Sablan's provision, for example, "the problem would be that anyone who's been here as of December 2011, who has no felony conviction, who has no three misdemeanor charges, would be eligible to a path [to citizenship]."

"That's a lot of people. Section 2109 (of S. 744) reduces that to about a third. It sets foundations, timelines," Sablan had said.

S. 744 and HR 15 both provide pathway to citizenship to some 11 million undocumented aliens in the U.S.

Sablan also said some CNMI House members' claims that there was no consultation on improved status is false, as even former governor Benigno R. Fitial testified in person and submitted testimony in Congress on immigration status for nonresidents.

"It was not something that was kept in the dark," he said.

Sablan also reiterated that the CNMI provision in S. 744 and HR

Housing perks for hospital nurses to stay, for now

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

If the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. was successful in eliminating the housing benefits of its doctors, there seems to be a long wait before the same can be done for its nurses and support staff.

Corporation interim CEO Esther Muna admitted this to *Saipan Tribune*, adding that the governing body has decided to put a status quo on the housing allowance for its nurses and ancillary staff until the CHCC figure out a way to stop it.

CHCC provides \$800 monthly housing allowance to those medical staff with families who were recruited outside the Commonwealth and \$600 for those single off-island recruits. This benefit has been put in place by the then public health department to entice foreign medical workers to work in the hospital and fill the critical shortage in many areas. But due to the scarce resources of the corporation, which became self-sufficient since October 2011, the new board has recommended either cutting or eliminating this incentive.

Muna disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that the corporation is in the process of conducting a

salary review for its nurses and ancillary staffers but admitted that it may take a while to determine when the CHCC is able and ready to eliminate the housing allowance for them.

Prior to the implementation of new salary scale for doctors, the corporation is paying over \$200,000 monthly in housing benefits to off-island recruits.

Corporation acting chief financial officer Cora Ada told *Saipan Tribune* that at present, CHCC is only providing housing benefits to 90 employees—a significant reduction from over 100 recipients before. For No-

vember alone, a total of \$63,000 was paid by CHCC in housing perks which checks were released last Thursday.

“Our monthly housing payment is now down to \$63,201.86 for total of 90 medical staff and last payment for November housing was Thursday,” Ada told *Saipan Tribune*, announcing

that CHCC has been successful in making the up-to-date payments to the staff. The payment for housing benefit was once delayed for up to eight months last year that resulted in the exodus of a number of nurses. But due to the improved revenues of the cor-

poration, plus the reduction of beneficiaries, payments are now being made on a timely basis.

CEO Muna admitted to *Saipan Tribune* that it's not easy to just eliminate the housing perks for nurses and built it in their wages as planned due to the additional cost this may incur to the corporation.

She said it's a bit challenging for CHCC because it will incorporate too, the overtime coverage.

“We have to analyze the effects and outcomes of that. For now, it will stay until we figure out a way where we can at least meet at certain point. Because anytime you take away something, you got to give something back,” said Muna, adding that eliminating housing allowance without incurring cost to the

CHCC is practically impossible to achieve.

According to Muna, there are some nonresident nurses who are not receiving the housing allowance at present after they have been promoted and provided salary adjustment were portion of their housing allowance was built in.

“There are some nurses who were promoted and part of the promotion arrangement is to take away the housing. Salary was adjusted because they took additional responsibilities,” she said.

At present, there are 112 nonresident nurses onboard the public hospital. Nursing director Leticia Reyes admitted to *Saipan Tribune* that most of them are still receiving the housing allowance.

Johnson's Honolulu-based counsel seeks additional \$1M attorneys' fees, costs

Honolulu-based Bronster Hoshibata law firm, one of the counsels for Betty Johnson, is seeking an additional over \$1 million in attorneys' fees and costs. The law firm's original request was \$17.5 million.

Attorney Robert Hatch, of the Bronster Hoshibata law office, filed on Friday in the U.S. District Court for the NMI a supplemental submission in support of their petition for attorneys' fees and costs.

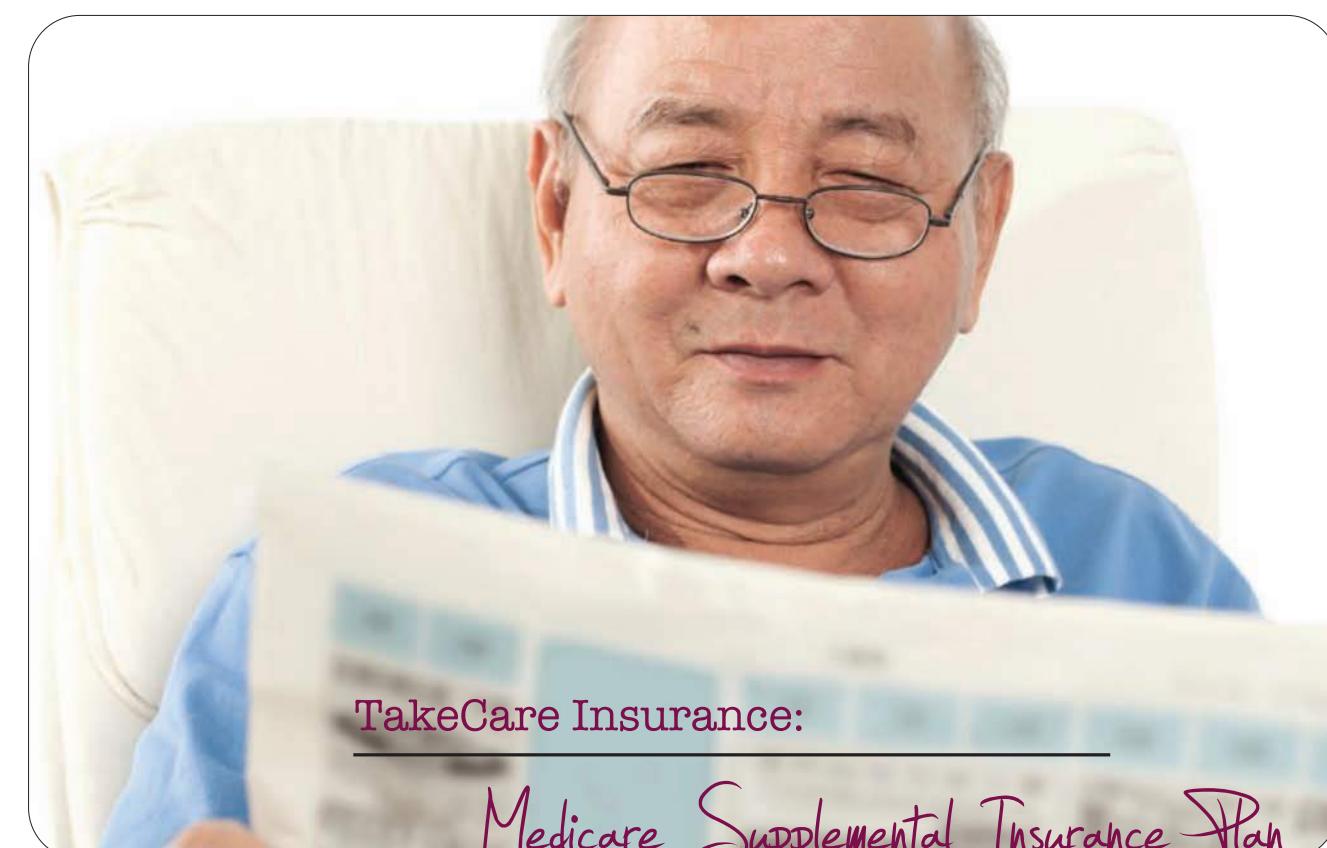
Hatch stated that at the time they filed their original petition on June 10, 2013, it was not yet possible for them to submit time for the work performed for the class during the month of September 2013.

He claimed that Bronster professionals devoted 219.4 professional hours to this matter in September 2013, for a total of \$71,772.75 at Bronster's existing hourly rates.

“This brings the total professional time devoted by Bronster to this matter up to Sept. 30, 2013 to 2,739 hours, for a total of \$1,074,450.88 at Bronster's existing hourly rates,” he said.

In addition, Hatch said, Bronster spent \$8,422.32 in out-of-pocket costs for this matter to \$59,283.38 as of Sept. 30, 2013. (Ferdie de la Torre)

» Corporation up to date in payment; recipients significantly down to 90 staff



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EXCITING THIS



Senate honors CNMI son at regional fire chiefs' event

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate honored one of the CNMI's sons, Stanley C. Torres Jr., now assistant fire chief for training at Andersen Air Force Base in Guam, for his accomplishments and dedication to his field of expertise at Friday's closing of the Second Annual Western Pacific Islands Association of Fire Chiefs' Conference.

Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan), on behalf of the 18th Senate, presented Torres a framed copy of Senate Commemorative Resolution 18-11, at a brief ceremony following a live fire

demonstration at the Pacific Region Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Training Center.

Senators, in signing the resolution, described Torres as an "extraordinary individual" and "forever a part of CNMI's history."

Torres, president of the Western Pacific Islands Association of Fire Chiefs, accepted the Senate resolution in the presence of visiting U.S. Fire Administrator Ernest Mitchell Jr., Commonwealth Ports Authority board chair Joe Lifoifo, his father and sister Regina, and other WPI- AFC conference participants.

During his stint as CPA airports fire chief beginning in

1995, Torres established the Pacific Region Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Training Center at the Saipan International Airport, which has trained and certified fire personnel not only from the CNM but also from all over Micronesia. The ARFF is

the first ever Federal Aviation Administration-certified training academy of its kind in the Western Pacific.

He was named not only Fire

Instructor of the Year 2011 for

the Department of the Navy Fire

and Emergency Services, but

also Fire Instructor of the Year

2011 for the Department of De-

fense Fire and Emergency Ser-

vices. Torres also bagged the Civilian of the Year award, CAT III, for the 36th Wing Andersen Air Force Base Guam for 2012.

Torres, the son of former repre-
sentative Stanley Torres and
Ana Torres, enlisted in the U.S.
Air Force in 1981 and was hon-
orably discharged in 1992 as a
technical sergeant.

He returned to his birthplace

of Saipan in 1993 to work as
CPA assistant fire chief for
training. Two years later, he
was promoted to CPA airports
fire chief.

At Friday's presentation, Torres
thanked the Senate for their
resolution, adding that he was
able to accomplish things be-
cause of the cooperation of ev-
eryone in his field.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

CNMI son and now Andersen Air Force Base Guam assistant fire chief Stanley C. Torres Jr., center, is presented with a CNMI Senate com-
memorative resolution for his achievements and exemplary contribution to the region, during Friday's conclusion of the Western Pacific Islands
Association of Fire Chiefs' Conference. Joining Torres in the photo are visiting U.S. Fire Administrator Ernest Mitchell Jr., fifth from left, and
Hawaii Department of Transportation Airports Fire Chief Martinez Jacobs, left, along with CNMI officials and other off island dignitaries.

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
INVITATION FOR BID
(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 12, 2013 • TIME: 10:00 AM
NMHC IFB 2013 004
"PURCHASING OF EMERGENCY VEHICLE FOR THE ROTA FIRE DIVISION"

Proposal packets will be available on Tuesday, November 19, 2013, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by cash, credit card, cashier's check or money order (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).
A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 26, 2013, at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.
This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
INVITATION FOR BID
(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 12, 2013 • TIME: 10:00 AM
NMHC IFB 2013 007
"Rehabilitation of two (2) Saipan Fire Stations
A. Susupe Fire Station • B. Kagman Fire Station"

Proposal packets will be available on Tuesday, November 19, 2013, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by cash, credit card, cashier's check or money order (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).
A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 26, 2013, at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.
This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone) For Saipan Surfrider LLC (Surfrider Resort Spa and Beach Club)

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map. Saipan Surfrider LLC is requesting to rezone lots 012 H 20; 008 H 32; and 008 H 29 from "Village Commercial" to "Tourist Resort" for hotel and commercial space development. These areas are located north of the former Pacific Gardenia Hotel and east of Sandy Beach Homes in Chalan Kanoa.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: Friday, December 27th, 2013

Time: 5:00 pm

**Place: Zoning Office conference room, 2nd floor,
Joeten Dandan Bldg.**

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, December 26, 2013. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Thirteenth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 26, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. at the BOE Conference Room in Bwughos Street, Susupe, Saipan.

AGENDA

- I. Preliminary**
 - 1. Call to Order
 - 2. Roll Call
 - 3. Adoption of Agenda
- II. Public Comments¹**
- III. New Business**
 - 1. Legal Counsel Position
- IV. Executive Session²**
- V. Administrative Matters**
- VI. Discussion of Agenda for next Board meeting**
- VII. Adjournment**

¹ Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

² Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

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Deadline for submission of application or resume is November 30, 2013.

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Arrest warrant tomorrow for Woodruff if he fails to produce document

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman will issue an arrest warrant tomorrow, Tuesday, for controversial disbarred lawyer Stephen C. Woodruff if the latter fails to produce a document that the court has been asking him to comply with the disbarment order.

In an order issued on Friday, Wiseman said the court will issue the arrest warrant Tuesday at 9am for Woodruff to serve five days in prison if the court will not have a document that it deems is satisfactory regarding with the mandate of Rule 15 of the Commonwealth Disciplinary Rules and Procedure and the disbarment order.

The judge further ordered Woodruff to provide any and all

files of Dong Mei Hao to attorney Eileen Wisor on or before 12pm on Friday.

"Failure to do so shall place respondent (Woodruff) in contempt of this court," Wiseman said.

Woodruff was also ordered to pay \$200, through atty. Wisor, for the account of Mr. Nakamura Kazinori, a former client, and to do so on or before Dec. 6, 2013.

The disbarred lawyer was further required to submit either an itemized billing or the services provided to Frank Cepeda, another former client, for which he charged for more than \$3,000 for. He was given until Wednesday, Nov. 27, to file the itemized billing.

Atalig warned of maximum jail term if he harasses ex-wife and kids again

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has warned suspended lawyer Antonio M. Atalig of imposing maximum a possible jail sentence if he will harass or threaten his former wife and three children again.

In a judgment of conviction and commitment order issued on Friday, Wiseman said he is reluctant to accept the plea agreement that Atalig entered with the government due to the reality of defendant's "propensity to continue on occasions over at least a 9-year period to get drunk and attack and intimidate his former wife and three kids."

See ATALIG on Next Page

Wiseman asked disciplinary counsel Thomas Clifford until Dec. 2, 2013 to file any response.

Wiseman directed Clifford to submit the names of proposed auditors to audit the files of Woodruff in order to determine any pending matters that need to be addressed.

"The proposal shall also suggest specific parameters for such auditor to follow," the judge said.

On Oct. 2, 2013, Wiseman found Woodruff in civil contempt for not complying with the court's disbarment order and sentenced him to five days in jail. The jail sentence will,

however, be suspended if the lawyer complies with the requirements of the disbarment order by Oct. 8, 2013.

Last Oct. 25, Wiseman found Woodruff's filing of affidavit "not deemed adequate" to satisfy the court's disbarment order against him.

Wiseman said Woodruff submitted an affidavit for Rule 15 of the Commonwealth Disciplinary

Rules and Procedure, the majority of which presents his legal arguments regarding the court's jurisdiction and other issues.

Accordingly, Woodruff was then ordered to appear in court on Thursday, Nov. 21 2013, to explain and clarify how his affidavit satisfies the court's mandates. Wiseman issued the written order based on Thursday's hearing. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES

RFQ14-GOV-017

Gualo Rai Reservoir Replacement



ATALIG

From Page 7

Wiseman issued the order as Atalig has been released from the custody and required to report to the Department of Corrections to start serving his sentence at DOC on Jan. 1, 2014 in his new domestic violence conviction.

The judge also ordered the 56-year-old Atalig to refrain from entering any bar, tavern or other establishment whose primary purpose is the sale or consumption of alcoholic beverages.

Atalig is not allowed to have direct or indirect contact with his former wife and their children subject to the conditions set forth in the Family Court case.

On Wednesday, Atalig pleaded guilty to assault and battery, two counts of disturbing the peace, and criminal contempt.

Wiseman accepted his guilty plea and the plea agreement. He sentenced the defendant to six months in prison and also ordered him to serve 325 days of his suspended sentence in a previous criminal conviction, with credit for time served.

Since Atalig was given credit for the eight months, this means that he has to serve about two more months, for a total of about eight months in prison.

According to the factual basis of the plea deal, on March 4, 2013 on Saipan, Atalig went to the home of his former wife and their three children, yelled to be let in, kicked the sliding glass door, and walked into the house.

Once inside, Atalig followed his former wife around the dining room table and then began following their then 13-year-old daughter, touching the girl and causing her to trip and fall over.

The defendant's actions violated the court's previous order as at the time, he was still on probation for his 2012 conviction in another domestic case. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| MD. JAHANGIR ALAM, Petitioner, |) FCD-DI |
| |) CIVIL ACTION |
| |) NO. 13-0488 |
| vs. |) SUMMONS FOR |
| FINORINA BOKUKU, Respondent. |) PUBLICATION |

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 504131 Chalan Kanoa Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

DATED, this 31st day of October, 2013

/s/Clerk of Court

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

November 25, 2005

‘6.5K betel nut trees saved’

More than 6,500 betel nut trees on Saipan have already been saved from the dreaded bud rot disease, according to the Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research Education and Extension Service. NMC-CREES agricultural consultant Isidoro Cabrera said as of last week they have saved the said number of trees from the fungus Pythophthora Meadi through the injection of the fungicide Fosphite. Cabrera said the agency has been very aggressive in stopping the further spread of the disease. He said NMC-CREES is still injecting the cure to more trees every week. He said more farmers have been cooperating with the agency to salvage what is left of their betel nut farms.

GOP to reassess its future

Republican Party chair John S. Reyes said he will stay in his post for some more time to do an assessment and fulfill membership obligations to the national party. In particular, Reyes said that the party will look at its “future.” The local GOP lost in this year’s gubernatorial race, with its standard-bearer, Gov. Juan N. Babauta and Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente, ranking third in the final election results. The BB ticket, who won a landslide victory in the 2001 elections with over 5,000 votes, only received 3,610 votes in the Nov. 5 polls. “We have to sit down and look at the future of Republican Party. We’ll think it over and see where we need to improve,” said Reyes.

November 25, 2006

14 NMC students inducted to Phi Theta Kappa group

Fourteen Northern Marianas College students were recently inducted to the Beta Lambda Psi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. The Fall Induction Ceremony was held last weekend at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. The inductees were: Roxanne Alvarez, Sandra Lynn Arnold, Linda M. Birmingham, Clifford Cuengco, Joanne M. Daproza, Patricia Jane C. Deleon Guerrero, Hazel Handayan, Sylvia C. Leon Guerrero, Chet C. Lynch, Martha R. Mendiola, Carla C. Naog, Maira Rios, Shu Yuan Wang, and Merry Joy Yamanaka. The inductees joined provisional members Maricon Bricia, Nikika Harris, and Joseprima Lacorte.

Two alien workers arrive clueless about their jobs

Two alien workers arrived on Saipan to work but they didn’t even know what their job was going to be, including one who was hired as a manager. Labor administrative hearing officer Barry Hirshbein ordered the workers—Cai Hua Gan and Feng Ying Yao—to depart the CNMI within 15 days after the repatriation ticket is delivered to Labor by their employer of record. Hirshbein also permanently barred Gan and Yao from working as nonresident workers in the CNMI. The hearing officer ordered the employer, Central Pacific Corp., to pay Gan \$3,000 for three months plus \$3,000 in liquidated damages for a total of \$6,000 (less the withholding tax on \$3,000).

November 25, 2007

Fund stops processing benefits

The NMI Retirement Fund has stopped processing members’ benefits because of the government’s failure to remit full contributions and the passage of certain laws deemed damaging to the pension program. The Fund board of trustees set forth the benefit suspension in a resolution adopted on Tuesday, Nov. 20. “The Retirement Fund board of trustees, in upholding their fiduciary duty of protecting the Retirement Fund’s assets for the members’ benefits, intends to direct the Retirement Fund to immediately suspend processing all applications for retirement or any other benefits of any Retirement Fund member with deficient employer contribution,” reads the resolution.

School hosts annual holiday bazaar

The island’s artists, craftspeople, and other vendors converged at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe yesterday for the 3rd annual Brilliant Star Holiday Bazaar. Local artists had their respective booths, where they showcased their products, which ranged from handcrafted items, to paintings and Pacific art, to locally designed t-shirts and fashion accessories, among many other items. The bazaar, organized by the Brilliant Star Montessori School on Saipan, also featured cultural and holiday entertainment performances by the Angel’s International School of Dance and Pacific Winds Ensemble, a bake sale and bento lunches, and raffle prizes.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-14-004

AIRPORT ROAD RESTORATION FOR SAN VICENTE SERVICE AREA EXTENSION PROJECT, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Airport Road Restoration for San Vicente Service Area Extension Project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

This work consists of excavation of flowable fill, and installation of asphalt concrete to replace pavement areas cut by CUC to install the San Vicente Service Area Extension Waterline project. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC and the Department of Public Works. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 30 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The Bid Package may be picked-up, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) on an electronic disk file; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **November 27, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Seven (7) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “Airport Road Restoration for San Vicente Service Area Extension Project” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on December 12, 2013**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on December 2, 2013** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Procurement & Supply Manager, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email yonne.cabrera@cucgov.org and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant – via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

CHARLES WARREN
Acting Executive Director

MPLT hints questionable 'account' of DPL

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Public Land Trust expressed disappointment on the continued non-cooperation by the Department Public Lands despite the latter having a new leadership.

MPLT board chair Pedro Deleon Guerrero admitted this Friday, alleging that the public lands department is hiding information from the land trust which has yet to be granted access to DPL's financial records for many years.

Deleon Guerrero disclosed that it was during the leadership of former DPL secretary Oscar Babauta when MPLT started requesting for the agen-

cy's financial documents in an effort to establish how much really the DPL is collecting from public land leases that must be remitted to the MPLT. These efforts, the chairman said, all failed.

Under the CNMI Constitution, DPL is tasked to remit to MPLT all revenues generated from land leases for the agency to invest. Deleon Guerrero said that if there's an amount to be deducted from these land lease payments is only the operational cost for the public land department. However, it's been a while since DPL had remitted monies to the trust that was during the term of the former secretary Babauta.

According to the chairman,

MPLT became more disappointed with the agency upon learning that DPL has submitted its financial records to the Legislature during the formulation of the new budget act—the same documents that have long been requested but ignored by the DPL administration.

Deleon Guerrero cited in particular recent disclosure about the DPL bank accounts that reportedly held some millions of dollars in savings.

"That's questionable because the Constitution is clear

that they cannot hold such monies and save it in their account. DPL is mandated by the Constitution to remit them all to MPLT for investment (for the CNMI government). They

should not 'save' monies generated from public land leases because it is a violation of the law," he told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that the

law is also clear that remittance is either every quarter or fiscal year but not "every 10 years."

It was early this year when MPLT formally requested access to DPL records and financial documents. One of the

given reasons of such delay is the conduct of an independent audit for DPL. However, MPLT was surprised when the same requested documentations were provided to the Legislature that were asked by MPLT from DPL.

"DPL has not been remitting any funds to MPLT. Since our last letter to DPL secretary, we haven't received any response and communication at all," said Deleon Guerrero.

MPLT's funds are sourced from the land lease payments collected annually by the Department of Public Lands. Its board invests these monies in mostly international markets to generate revenues for the

government. Each year, MPLT remitted significant amount to the general fund which the legislature used in the appropriation law. MPLT transferred monies to the general fund which the government utilized in providing essential services to the people: education, health, public safety, and others.

It can be recalled that MPLT, in its early correspondence to the DPL secretary, has given the land agency up to end of FY 2013 to provide the needed financial documents which did not materialized. MPLT earlier even threatened the DPL of potential legal suit if it continues to ignore the request.

» Public lands financial records remain inaccessible by land trust

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Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Don't clone Guantanamo

In recent months, President Obama has rededicated himself to his longtime goal of closing the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, and there are signs that Congress may assist him in making good on that promise. It will depend on whether the final 2014 National Defense Authorization Act follows language in the Senate version relaxing current restraints on transfers of the remaining detainees.

But even if additional prisoners are moved out of Guantanamo, it's vital that the U.S. not solve its immediate problem by replicating the prison elsewhere. That concern is raised by reports that the Obama administration is negotiating with Yemen to construct a facility that would house as many as 30 of the 55 Yemenis the Pentagon has cleared for transfer. The Los Angeles Times' David Cloud has reported that Yemeni officials have drawn up a plan for a facility outside the capital, Sana. But it hasn't been established whether it would serve as a prison or as a sort of halfway house to help detainees reenter society after years of detention. Such efforts have had some success in Saudi Arabia, where they involve providing financial assistance and job placement to help detainees with reentry and religiously based exhortations against terrorism.

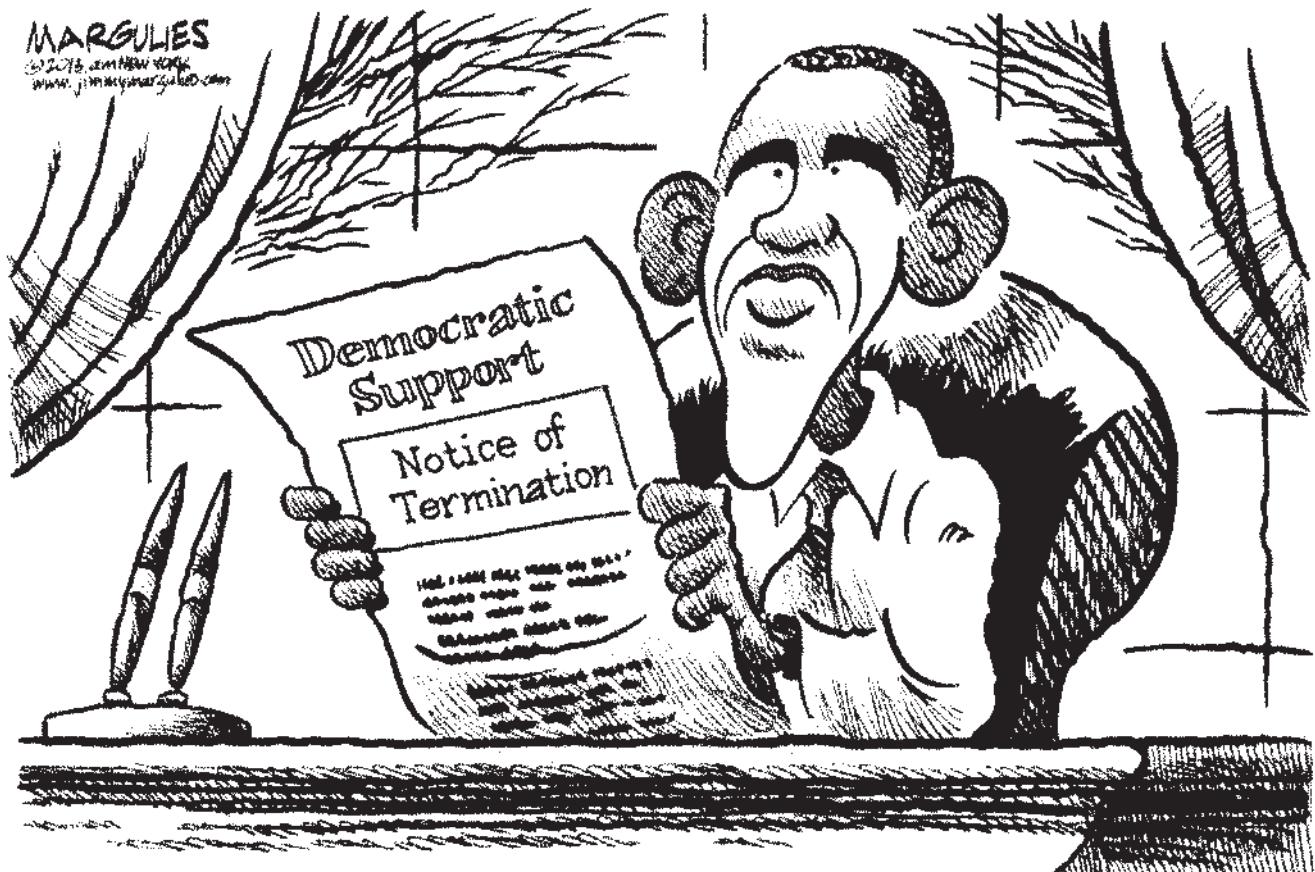
We have no strong objection if the U.S. decides to assist Yemen as it launches such a project to encourage repatriated detainees not to relapse or rejoin terrorist groups. But the U.S. shouldn't build, much less operate, a Guantanamo-like prison in Yemen or collude in indefinite detention.

The problem with Guantanamo is not where it is but what it is: a prison in which most of the inmates have languished for years in legal limbo, theoretically able to challenge their confinement in U.S. courts but in fact deprived of meaningful due process. Many have been driven to despair; quite a few have attempted or committed suicide. The current population includes not only about 80 who have been cleared for release and others awaiting trial by military commission, but also some 40 prisoners the U.S. has decided are too dangerous to release but who can't be put on trial because of compromised or inadmissible evidence.

In a speech in May at the National Defense University, President Obama reiterated his commitment to shut Guantanamo, arguing that "there is no justification beyond politics for Congress to prevent us from closing a facility that should never have been opened." He even floated the possibility that the status of detainees deemed too dangerous to be put on trial might be resolved consistent with principles of American justice. (Sadly, action on that commitment hasn't been forthcoming.)

Obama rightly observed that Guantanamo "has become a symbol around the world for an America that flouts the rule of law." But precisely the same message would be sent if inmates were released from Guantanamo, only to be held indefinitely under U.S. control in other countries. Guantanamo needs to be closed, not exported.

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Another Insurance Cancellation Due To Obamacare

The Old Man and the Tea

Early on, the faculty liaison officer that welcomed me to Hang Gong Hang Tian Da Xue (Shenyang Aerospace University) transliterated my name to "Hemi," which was the sound she heard when I pronounced my name; she then had me identified as such in the teaching assignment schedule list. Not long after, my students started calling me "Hemingwei" since most of them read Ernest Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea* in High School. They remember the Zhongwen translation rather than the English they were supposed to learn but since passing tests is what school courses are designed for, actually learning the language did not matter, as long as they memorized the terms used by the teacher.

The old man in Hemingway's story is *Santiago* whose name is St. James in Castilian, "Jaime" in the Basque country that straddles France and Spain, the name my father received from Spanish name givers, of which I am a junior. *Hemingwei* fell smoothly into my personal nomenclature, so I did not hesitate to appropriate the name. Nor did my students.

In Hemingway's story, Santiago the fisherman goes for 84 days without catching anything, and his young apprentice Manolin is ordered by his family to leave the old man to join other fishermen who might be more productive. Still faithful to the aging fisherman, Manolin helps haul his net at the end of the day, and keeps him company in his shack while the young lad talks of his favorite baseball player Joe DiMaggio. Santiago in turn continually threatens to sail far out into the Gulf Stream, promising to catch a big one the next day.

He does take his skiff far out the following day and by mid-morning, gets a bite from a big one. The marlin at the other end of the line puts up a valiant act of resistance, and ends up pulling the skiff out into the Stream. Santiago uses all his strength and his fragile body to counter the tug of war. In the process, Santiago develops a quiet respect over his adversary, and even calls it his brother. Of the marlin's integrity, Santiago concludes that no one is worthy enough to eat the fish.

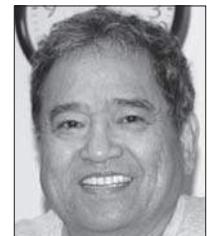
It takes two nights and three days before the marlin circles the boat indicating tiredness, at which point, Santiago hauls it in, harpoons the tenacious fish, straps it against his skiff and sails home. A mako shark attracted by the fresh blood of the marlin attacks and in the fight, Santiago loses his harpoon. For a makeshift harpoon, he attaches his knife to his oar to ward another five sharks attracted to his fish. By the time he hits shore, however, other sharks reduced the marlin into a carcass and a head. The fish measured 16 feet long!

The old man immediately hits the sack in his shack where Manolin gladly ministers to his needs. The struggle with the marlin invigorates the old man and he dreams of his youth and lions in an African safari.

We have obviously come to be identified with the "old man" in

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara is a resident of Saipan teaching at the Shenyang Aerospace University in China. His email is pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



our class and in our mind. We disambiguate on the title: our cup of tea is not with the Tea Party. China's tea is our sea—vast, invigorating, and when fermented, a soulful nectar of the divine! Students, mostly in for a quick ride towards a diploma, are our marlin surprised when dished out an unexpected journey into their lives.

But first, we had not come to China to catch anyone in a *qi pao*. We leave the enterprise of the chase to the swift-footed young. Charged by my siblings to be a bit on the effete side, I stand accused of having been on occasion the one easily caught! We have, in fact, in today's single ladies elegy, "if you like it, you should have put a ring on it", been guilty on putting one too many more than what we should have done "on it"! An SF colleague suggests I learn to bow towards Mecca so I can legally ring four!

Our tea is pedagogy—informative and educative. In our current stage of scholarship, our method is imaginal. Our assumption: Everyone operates out images. We create images from words and metaphors, pictures and numbers that we use to describe our sense experiences, express our feelings, articulate our thoughts, and formulate our deeds. Images we create determine behavior. When images change, behavior changes. In science, that is called a "paradigm shift."

For the spread of our tea analogy, one might just consider the varied categories of white, green, yellow, black teas, and names like oolong, Darjeeling, Nepal, Assam, Nilgiri, Turkish, Ceylon, pu'er, tisanes (herbal, not technically tea), along with the many methods of preparations and ways of serving, blends and additives, to realize we are in a whole universe with its own stellar paths and flavors. Whether one calls the ingredient *te*, *cha*, *tea*, *chay*, does not matter, but if one goes through the delicate moves of a *Gongfu cha* ceremony, one readily senses elegant olfactory presence of one of the beverage wonders of the world.

We view our pedagogy in the same vein as we sip our tea, varied yet integrated, intentional though unconstricting, leaning unapologetically on the authority of authenticity rather than the whims of fads and the winds of fashion. As it was at SVES in Saipan, students attend class ready to be surprised at the awe and wonder of their own existence, and taking full ownership of it. That, for the moment, in our best and most profound orchestral and facilitative repertoire, is in our cup!

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Historic exodus: People and investments

The combined exodus of some \$7 billion on investments (foreign capital) and 3,000 plus of our own people searching for greener pasture elsewhere ought to be an eye-opener for any elected official worth his salt. The hardship deepens with some 6,000 unemployed folks right here at home.

But is there any sense of urgency to address and resolve the pile of major and problematic issues sinking the livelihood of our people unnecessarily? Isn't it true that "reality" always wins? Isn't the reality of hardship at the village level sufficient to immediately grab the bull by the horns in hopes of neutralizing it?

There are several issues before the NMI today that require immediate attention. They are:

1). A huge pile of debt of more than \$369 million excluding deficit spending.

2). Unfunded liability with the retirement fund that must be met and paid.

3). Major contraction or shrinkage in revenue generation of some \$133 million.

4). Costly power bills that pummel families and businesses all over.

The hard reality of these issues is the destruction it forces upon the people throughout the NMI. Need it be this way? Collectively, what have elected officials done to ease the hardship of the people they represent upstairs? It's difficult chronicling it that even a seismograph machine fails to detect tangible results from the chain of socio-economic disasters.

Collectively, what have elected officials done to ease the hardship of the people they represent upstairs? It's difficult chronicling it that even a seismograph machine fails to detect tangible results from the chain of socio-economic disasters.

Conscience, anybody?

With a conscience and sense of humility you could make a difference clearing the avalanche of unsolicited hardship in misery pummeling the people you represent in our governmental institutions. It's a simple case of where "the rubber meets the road", so to speak. It would give people you represent some real breathing room to keep more of their meager income.

The lack of economic opportunities and jobs simply means

fewer people working. As such, the net effect results in less productive total economy, smaller payrolls, less household income, less consumer spending and demand. The consequence is one huge economic contraction on a steady march towards deeper deficit spending, if not, bankruptcy. It stirs more uncertainty about the future. People only want jobs and opportunities for their children.

The deepening economic contraction has necessitated 25 percent cut pension pay for retirees. It was forced upon retirees for a simple reason: No money in the coffers. As retirees muddle through quietly, they ask: what if per chance the economy contracts further?

Wouldn't this force the administration to impose additional cuts against retirees' pension beyond 25 percent?

Moreover, not only is unemployment a problem, there are also critical issues with underemployment. The latter means you have a job that pays around the federal poverty income level. It's viciously painful trying to make ends meet with a family of four with underemployment tattooed on your forehead.

The lack of a thriving economy quickly translates into lack of opportunities for many of our people especially the younger folks now in institutions of higher learning. It pushes families to firm-up plans to stay in counties, cities and states where opportunities abound. It's a perfect recipe for a brain drain and every other drain imaginable.

Must stop the myriad of bleeding today! Let's begin by privatizing CUC so we take the first step together on that journey to economic prosperity.

Need for constant reorientation

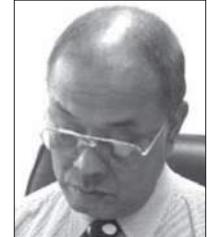
We all must make it a daily habit reading major dailies across the global village keeping tabs of investments and other collateral issues as they unfold in Japan, ASEAN nations, elsewhere and across the country. It pays to know of major financial events, where investments are headed and why or issues where the feds are bent to impose central planning to control more of our lives.

We should it double up with mega-analysis from major founda-

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



tions on economics, pension programs turned "cash balance" via reform, global education, the first principles, and federalist papers, among other issues.

Moreover, why do people move from cities that pay high salaries to metro areas where pay is low, i.e., New York to metro areas in Texas?

What else did the Lone State do to get its investment ducks in order, so to speak or how Japan has taken the challenge to lure large investors to make their headquarters in the Land of the Rising Sun. Is China's economic surge on steady and sturdy grounds versus Japan?

A national columnist noted, "people don't move away from opportunity. They move partly in response to economic incentives, but also to pursue dreams and escape nightmares."

"Opportunity does exist in the Northeastern states and in California—for people with very high skill levels and for low-skill immigrants, without whom those metro areas would have lost, rather than gained, population over the last three decades.

"But there's not much opportunity there for people with midlevel skills who want to raise families. Housing costs are exceedingly high, partly, as Noah notes, because of restrictive land use and zoning regulations.

"High taxes produce revenues to finance handsome benefits and pensions for public employee union members in the high-cost states. It's hard to see how this benefits middle-class people making their living in the private sector.

"As economist Tyler Cowen points out in a Time magazine cover story, when you adjust incomes for tax rates and cost of living, Texas comes out ahead of California and New York and ranks behind

See HISTORIC on Page 14

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Un-Christian resolution

Editor's Note: Due to its length, the following letter is being published in three parts. This is the third part.

I don't know about all of you, but that's definitely not the image of the CNMI and our people that I want the rest of the world to see. Ever since I left Saipan and joined the military, I have told everyone I met nothing but good stuff about my home. I have told them how beautiful our beaches are, how delicious our food is, how amazing our sunsets are, and I told them especially about how nice and warmhearted our people are, and how we take pride in our Christian ethics (since most people in our islands identify with some form of Christianity). This resolution is a direct slap in the face not only to our many brothers and sisters who have helped us build the CNMI over the years, but also to those who, like me, have told people that they met outside of the CNMI all about how wonderful our home is and how great the people are. Speaking of Christianity, how can anyone who supports this resolution honestly call themselves a Christian? Does anyone honestly believe that this is what Christ would have done in this situation? What happened to loving your neighbor as you love yourself? To treating others as you would like to be treated? Is this how you would like to be treated if you were in the foreign workers' shoes? Is this how Christ would be treating the foreign workers if he were alive today? As Christians, we are supposed to strive to be like Christ, taking care of each other, supporting those in need, and loving our brothers and sisters. In a place with such a high concentration of people who identify themselves as some form of Christian, I find it amazing that we have allowed ourselves to arrive at this point, where the people whom we elected to represent us have taken it upon themselves to declare for us all that the CNMI's "official" stance is that we do not want our brothers

and sisters to receive the same full social, economic, and political rights that we all now enjoy as U.S. citizens. Jesus Christ was kind, compassionate, and helpful to the people that he came across, living a righteous life and always choosing to do the right thing no matter what. As people who claim to be followers of Christ, where is our compassion, our kindness, and our support when it comes to our brothers and sisters, the foreign workers, who came to our beautiful islands many years ago, many of them even a few decades ago, and built our infrastructure and economy from the ground up? Why do we not hear their cries for justice? Or do we hear them and simply choose to ignore them, because supporting their cause for the U.S. permanent residency or U. S. citizenship that they rightfully deserve after having lived and worked here for so long, means that we must be willing to risk that such an addition of thousands of new voters in our islands would spell the end of the status quo that, despite all our complaints about it, we still seem to support, because hardly anyone seems to really want to take any concrete action in this matter? What do you think Jesus would do if he were around today? Do you think he would approve of the adoption of HR 18-34? Do you think he would approve of our seeming silence and inaction when it comes to the plight of our brothers and sisters, the foreign workers? I sure don't. On the contrary, I think he would be a very vocal supporter of the foreign workers, because that is the compassionate and just thing to do. As people who claim to be his followers, should we not be doing what we think he would be doing if he were here? Our brothers and sisters have fought for an improved status for a very long time, but they are growing weary because every step of the way they have been blocked by our local government and they don't feel like they have our support, especially when our own representatives take it upon themselves to adopt HR 18-34. They need our help, our love, and our support.

I implore you all, if you truly consider yourselves as Christians, to please act in a Christlike manner and show your love and support for the plight of our brothers and sisters, who seek to finally be our equals in society. Even if you're not Christian or you're not religious at all, don't you think that the morally right thing to do in this situation is support, in their struggle for equality, the very people whom we owe most of our infrastructure and economic growth to? Our brothers and sisters need our help. Please extend your love and support to them; don't let them go on thinking that HR 18-34 actually represents the desires and wishes of the CNMI public at large. Let's show the foreign workers, the USA, and the world that we are not as heartless and selfish as our thirteen representatives who voted to adopt HR 18-34 want to make us out to be.

Kelvin Rodeo
Glendale, CA

What's going on?

Our beautiful islands were once a harmonious place to live on. We used to go on one *chalan* and now dies *chalan*. What's going on? Is it retirement, high price of utilities, or Article 12? My dear people of the Marianas, please, can we ask our legislators to work carefully, honestly, and faithfully to get these problems solved. We all must work together to get this done.

Joe Kani
Tanapag, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |

▲ 87° ▾ 77°

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Micronesia

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----------|
| Guam And Rota | Thundershowers | ▲ 87 ▾ 79 |
| Palau | Showers | ▲ 87 ▾ 76 |
| Yap | Showers | ▲ 88 ▾ 77 |
| Chuuk | Showers | ▲ 86 ▾ 80 |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorms | ▲ 87 ▾ 75 |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorms | ▲ 87 ▾ 75 |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | ▲ 84 ▾ 79 |

Around The Globe

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|-----------|
| Auckland | Showers | ▲ 71 ▾ 64 |
| Beijing | Sunny | ▲ 42 ▾ 22 |
| Hong Kong | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 73 ▾ 66 |
| Honolulu | Sunny | ▲ 82 ▾ 70 |
| London | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 43 ▾ 32 |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | ▲ 70 ▾ 49 |
| Manila | Thundershowers | ▲ 87 ▾ 78 |
| Melbourne | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 73 ▾ 50 |
| Miami | Showers | ▲ 77 ▾ 70 |
| New York | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 36 ▾ 30 |
| Osaka | Sunny | ▲ 54 ▾ 44 |
| Paris | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 41 ▾ 33 |
| Pusan | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 52 ▾ 42 |
| Rome | Sunny | ▲ 47 ▾ 35 |
| Salem | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 52 ▾ 33 |
| San Francisco | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 64 ▾ 47 |
| Seoul | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 42 ▾ 32 |
| Tokyo | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 60 ▾ 45 |
| Washington, DC | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 37 ▾ 34 |

Tides

| Saipan Harbor | | |
|---------------|-------|---------------------|
| 6:21 AM | Today | Low Tide: 0.3 Feet |
| 1:34 PM | Today | High Tide: 1.8 Feet |
| 8:04 PM | Today | Low Tide: 1.0 Feet |

Sunrise/Sunset

| Sunrise/Sunset | | | Moonrise/Moonset | | |
|----------------|---------|---------|------------------|----------|----------|
| Today | 6:24 AM | 5:44 PM | Today | 11:56 PM | 11:51 AM |
| Tuesday | 6:24 AM | 5:44 PM | Tuesday | | 12:30 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:25 AM | 5:44 PM | Wednesday | 12:45 AM | 1:09 PM |
| Thursday | 6:25 AM | 5:44 PM | Thursday | 1:35 AM | 1:50 PM |
| Friday | 6:26 AM | 5:44 PM | Friday | 2:26 AM | 2:33 PM |

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

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Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

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Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

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- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
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- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
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To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 2, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| UA5070 | 4:15am | 5:05am | Daily |
| UA5068 | 8:40am | 9:30am | Daily |
| UA5038 | 2:20pm | 3:10pm | 2, 3, 6 |
| UA5078 | 6:05pm | 6:55pm | Daily |
| UA5072 | 9:50pm | 10:40pm | Daily |

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

| | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|------------|
| UA5039 | 1:35pm | 2:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
|--------|--------|--------|------------|

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|------------|
| UA5039 | 2:40pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
|--------|--------|--------|------------|

SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

| | | | |
|-------|--------|---------|--------------|
| DL287 | 6:05am | 11:25pm | 2, 6 via NRT |
|-------|--------|---------|--------------|

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

| | | | |
|-------|--------|--------|---------------|
| DL287 | 6:05am | 8:40am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 |
| DL297 | 4:30pm | 7:20pm | Daily |

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

| | | | |
|-------|--------|--------|------------|
| 0Z608 | 3:10am | 6:20am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
|-------|--------|--------|------------|

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

| | | | |
|-----------|--------|--------|------------------|
| 0Z606 | 2:10am | 6:00am | 1 |
| 0Z606/701 | 2:20am | 5:50am | 3 |
| 0Z606/702 | 2:40am | 6:15am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| 0Z606/703 | 2:40am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| 0Z606/704 | 3:30am | 7:20am | 4, 7 |
| 0Z606/705 | 2:00pm | 5:30pm | 6 |
| | | | |

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Motives of groups opposing 18-34

I want to say *dangkulo na saludo yan respeto para y trese na membron y kongreso siha ni sumopotta yan umabiba y Resolution 18-34. Y taotao tano siha giya Marianas mananahe hamyo agradesiemento sa gaige y korason miyo yan y hinengen miyo gi taotao tano yan y tano Marianas. l Para y sinko ni kumontra y resolution guaha otro sinentan miyo fera de hafa esta husangan. Hu diseseha yan hutatayuyut na y kuetpo gi Senate huma siente pareho y desision y trese gi House of Representatives.*

The CNMI House of Representatives have spoken on the legislative measure HR 18-34 and is on its way to the Senate for review and deliberation. Some people in the community have different perceptions on

the action taken on the resolution but the Legislature functions on consensus building and voting. It has done its due diligence on the resolution measure. First, the resolution like any legislative measure was introduced then referred to the appropriate committee for research and evaluation before reporting it to the full House via a committee reporting process.

Put hate and discrimination aside

I had the privilege of reading Mr. Rodeo's letter to the editor before it was published. After I finished reading it, I asked if he submitted it to both newspapers. When he said yes, the only word I said was "GOOD." Of course I knew after reading it that it would cause an uproar in the "local" community! Of course I knew that it would offend and upset many people, especially those who were called out for voting for the resolution. But it needed to be said. It needed to be thrown out there because no Chamorro or Carolinian had the guts to voice it due to cowardice. Yes, I said that. The fear of being the highlight of negative talks among our people.

I talk about racism being a huge problem in the CNMI because of what I have seen and witnessed throughout my life, and people try to prove me wrong and tell me that I am exaggerating. Am I really exaggerating? Yes, I know racism is alive all over the world, but for such a small island community, it's pretty bad in comparison to other places. A family member of mine (a younger generation) called out "that stupid nigger!" to an actress in a TV show and rolled her eyes at me when I got extremely upset with her. She honestly believed that she didn't do anything wrong or racist and that I was making a big deal out of nothing. She is 19 and believes she isn't racist when she discriminates so many races and uses derogatory words toward them. My people of the CNMI that is what our younger generation is becoming. Since they were little, they have seen older siblings, adult relatives, and even their parents treat anyone who isn't of the same descent as if they were lower than them. They would hear "get off the road you stupid Chinese!" or watch and be told to participate on teasing a person from Bangladesh and make fun of their living arrangements. And since these people are the ones who "teach" them what's right or wrong, they actually believe that racist comments and actions are ok. Is that how we want our young generations to be? Do we want our people to be known as the people who think that anyone who isn't of Chamorro and Carolinian descent is not worthy to be on the same island as us

and love the same home that we love? Do we want our children to pass on what we show them to their kids, and their kids down to theirs?

This whole "Chamorros and Carolinians only" idea needs to end. It's utterly ridiculous. Your own children are very diverse; you are diverse. The last full Chamorro and Carolinian died long before I was born. Trust me, I actually paid attention in NMI History. Doesn't the lack of brown eyes and not so black hair give you enough of a hint? And what are you really protecting? The "foreigners" were lured onto our islands with false hope. They spent their life's worth with the impression that they have a good job waiting for them when they come to Saipan and they are able to feed their family and provide for them. What they had waiting for them was a trap in slave labor. Did anyone complain when they were the sole key of one of our past main economies, the garment factories? Which, mind you, they were treated very inhumanely, with the employers treating them as less than humans; all for cheap labor and profits. Did anyone care that that was going on? No. We turned our heads away because their slave labor brought in the money right? They were trapped on Saipan, not allowed to return home because they had a debt to pay and when the U.S. saw what was going on and shut them down, they were stuck here with no way of going back home. And because the garment factories collapsed and the economy started to crumble, everyone decided "let's blame them for not being able to get a job! They're stealing all our benefits! We are the sole owners of these lands, and they should go back to where they came from!" It was easier to blame them. You know what that reminds me of? How the Germans treated the Jews after World War I. They found someone to blame and it was all their fault for everything bad happening for them. Actually, that's a perfect example of how we treat foreigners. Thank goodness we didn't have our own Hitler to lead us! But it was easier to blame them than to blame ourselves, wasn't it? We, after all, were the ones able to vote, not them. We voted people

into office who corrupted the government for selfish, personal (money pocketing) reasons. After all, they're your relative and it's family that you have to side with even if they contributed greatly to the downfall of our economy, right? Or did they offer you a high paying job? You wouldn't have been able to get it any other way because you aren't close to being qualified for it and you definitely don't do your job right. Did they slide money your way for your vote in confidence? I know certain people were famous for that one a while back... So we don't care that these same people are the reasons why our economy is still falling and digging its grave. They are also the same people who knew very well the truth behind the garment factories but said nothing because money was being put in their pockets in exchange for their silence.

Let me also remind you all about the nation we are a part of. The United States of America was made by foreigners. The nation wouldn't be what it is today if it wasn't made of people from different races who contributed to the growth and betterment of the country. We reap the benefits of being a part of this country. We leech off of the funding we receive and we make good use of the advantages of being a U.S. citizen. So why do we spit on our own foreigners who are contributing greatly to the growth and betterment of our own country? Let me ask you all: What are you so afraid of when considering making these foreigners and long time residents equal to us? You think our culture is going to die out? Well, it has been dying for quite some time now, and it's because of you, not them. You chose to make English the first language when your kids were growing up. You chose not to teach the language. You chose to neglect to teach your kids the culture. You chose to not pass on the fundamentals of what makes us who we are as a people and culture. You are the reasons why our culture is dying. Are you afraid no jobs will be available because the foreigners are taking them all? That's a joke. Our own people are known for being selective with what job they want. You

See HATE on Next Page

In this case the committee went further, it requested the participation of the full House to review and deliberate on the measure. The full House debated the measure for over five hours before action was taken. Democracy in action indeed. Now, those in the community who do not support the spirit and intent of HR 18-34 may have different reasons.

Let's look at some profiles of those who oppose the resolution. Group A opposes HR 18-34 because it prevents the foreign worker from getting a "shortcut" path to U.S. citizenship. I say "shortcut path..." because the CNMI already has in place the Immigration Nationality Act (INS) process to apply for permanent residency and U.S. citizenship. The venue for status change is the USCIS office in Garapan, Saipan. Under the INS the United States and the CNMI baptize foreigners to become U.S. citizens after they fulfill the INS requirements, right? But Group A wants to sidestep this process so as to avoid the required fees, the waiting period and other requirement. They want to have their cake and eat it too.

Group B, which does not support the spirit and intent of the resolution, is more hideous and skillful in camouflage tactics.

They oppose the resolution for personal and political gains. They espouse rhetoric on humanitarian values, morality, dignity, and other Christian virtues. This group is the virtuous fly-by-night God-fearing born agains. This group's agenda is to secure a political bloc votes of 14,000 plus in their pockets that will be eternally beholden to them so they will secure a lifetime career in political positions. I unequivocally believe that our present delegate to the U.S. Congress is the leader of the pack on this crusade. You see, as a CNMI congressman years ago, he argued passionately against the influx, impact, and influence of the foreign workers in the CNMI in the House of Representatives. After he became a U.S. delegate with a salary of \$170,000 per year he wanted to ensure that he will never earn less than \$170,000 again so he made a 180 degrees turnaround from his earlier attacks on foreign worker influx, impact, and influence on our *komunidad* and for good reason, he had to secure a lifetime 'bloc votes" and a "lifetime career" in Washington, D.C.

Yes, my dear people that is the real deal and you can take it to the bank. I know, this is a bitter pill to swallow and supporters/friends of this individual and others with similar agenda will jump to their defense faster than lightning. Bust isn't what I just said is the obvious? Of course, businesses have a slightly different reason for opposing HR 18-34. Businesses are profit-driven animals that are eternally seeking to lower cost and increase profits. It is the main reason why the garment industry left the CNMI for countries like China, Vietnam, and Thailand where cheap labor is available and where people can be paid \$5 per day compared to \$24 per day plus overtime pay in the CNMI.

So, it made good business sense to leave the CNMI for greener pastures. Group D is the "bleeding hearts" which has two sub-groups. The first are the people who have genuine concern for the welfare and livelihood of the foreign worker. I respect them because they are honest. The other sub-group capsulizes the opportunists, some politicians, and most businesses. I must say that their concerns for the welfare and livelihood of the foreign worker is less than honest—disingenuous. You can draw your own conclusion from the narrative above but I am confident that you would agree with most of it.

Alfred Guerrero King
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

SOLICITATION TO SUBMIT REQUESTS FOR CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Recently a motion was filed to reopen Civil Case No. CV-01-0031, *DOE I, et al., v. THE GAP, INC., et al.*, which was granted and Timothy H. Bellas, has been appointed by the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands to distribute certain residual funds which were previously held in trust for a contingent liability that never required payment.

Therefore, a residual amount of money exists which, by the terms of the Settlement Agreement in the above entitled case, is to be donated to charity.

As a result, all non-profit organizations, who qualify for charitable status under Internal Revenue Code Section 501 (c), are asked to submit a request for a donation from this Residual Fund. Preference will be given to organizations whose charitable services are available to all members of the CNMI Community.

At a minimum, requests should state: 1) the amount requested; 2) describe what type of charitable activity the organization is involved in and 3) how any funds which may be donated to the organization would be used. Requests from organizations who are not well known as charitable, should also submit evidence of their 501(c) status.

Please send all donation requests to:

Timothy H. Bellas
P.O. Box 502845
Saipan, MP 96950

All requests must be in writing and received no later than December 13, 2013 in order to be considered.

The decision to donate and the amount of such donations are entirely discretionary. This solicitation shall create no rights or obligations in or to any third party. However, a proposed list of donations will be submitted to and is subject to the final approval by the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ Timothy H. Bellas

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The people and courts have already ruled on casinos

Just to remind you senators and members of the lower house, the people did vote and say no to Saipan casinos twice. With that being said, the will and voice of the last poll conducted of the people is what the Lower House and the Senate should always base their decision, not this guessing game that so many people have changed their minds.

Applying the last polling of the people is the respectful and right way to govern as this is a lesson that was just taught to the Senate by the courts when the court made its decision on senator Ayuyu's replacement. The court clearly stipulated that the last and most recent polling of the people reflected that the people wanted Sen. Manglona over anyone else. Given this revelation, the Senate should know that they must put the casino issue to the people again if they truly respect the will of the people. Members of the Legislature need to be reminded that it is not your job to guess about who has changed their minds just because you have which is what this is boiling down to. It is your job in the Legislature to give the people an opportunity to decide and not try to force casinos down our throats especially when you are dragging this on and one for 10

years—it is absolutely ridiculous!

I know the chair in the Senate over this issue is not running again and that frightens me that is why I am pleading to the Senate president to exercise some wisdom and respect, especially if he wants to become our next lieutenant governor. The Senate president needs to tell the governor to set course in a new direction for the sake of both of their political careers as many people still want to see if the governor can even set a new course other than the casinos which was Fitial's baby literally. The impeachment vote was not just about getting rid of a leader but also a mandate for us to start in a new direction. I warned people that Fitial might be out but we won't be changing course and the proof is in the details. I would like nothing more than to fully support the governor and the Senate president but it is clear they are already doing too much politicking by playing with us and holding the casino issue over our heads but won't give us a chance to vote on it. The casino issue is going to be just like the proverbial tiger in this past election that is going to turn around to devour some political careers for playing politics. The people are not stupid and

can see what you are doing.

If the court can respect the will of the people based on the last polling then why can't our Legislature and governor show the same respect? Stop trying to circumvent voters' rights to decide on this casino bill because most of us know you are lying giving us one excuse after another. Now you are trying to make the retirees give in with the 25 percent lie when there is no permanent solution for the 75 percent. The economy is starting to rebound with a constant rise in tourist arrivals. We finally have a real investor who wants to invest \$1 billion in the CNMI whom we should be trying to persuade to build a casino on Rota to capture the large virgin market in Guam, not Saipan.

The silent majority is just watching you (governor, senators, and representatives) play political suicide with casinos and waiting for the next election to give you a piece of their minds for playing with us for 10 years.

Ambrose M Bennett
Kagman

Expand mandatory drug testing

Representative Chris Guerrero introduced a bill making it mandatory for public officials to undergo drug testing twice a year. I want it extended to all sectors of the government and particularly in the Department of Public Safety where drug evidence tampering is a common practice.

Police officers have done it all. They are involved in practically everything that they took oath to prevent: domestic violence, drug trafficking, police brutality, drunk driving, homicide, adulterous department culture, and incest. Commissioner Guerrero must step up to the plate because the public has lost confidence

in DPS' credibility.

With regard to the fundraising activities going on for the Yolanda typhoon victims in the Philippines, I hope that our community will come together and pitch in because that is our local spirit to help. Be generous as Thanksgiving and Christmas are just around the corner.

I caution however about online donation seekers as many of them are bogus and are just online thieves. Give your donations through the church, LBC, PSS and legitimate Philippine groups on island. My personal take on the recent re-installation of senator Paul

Manglona to the vacated Senate seat is a judicial travesty.

The people of Rota have already spoken as early as last election that they disapprove of Paul's performance in the last five years as a senator. So what is so complicated about this election decision that escaped the Supreme Court chief justice Castro, pro tems Tim Bellas and Herbert Soll? Have your fixation on legal technicalities blurred what simple common sense tells you?

Pedro T. Arriola
Kagman I, Saipan

Nobody is perfect

You can read the story of Carmen in the Internet. Since she was a teenager she has been a victim of bad influence from all her friends. They are very popular in the plaza in Garapan. They hang around poker rooms and then go home drunk and they all sleep in my house. In the morning I would ask them question if their parents are not worried about them if they don't go home. They would reply that it's okay because their parents know they are with Carmen. Later, Carmen had a boyfriend and I let them get married. So that way they could receive the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony. I chose a police officer as a godfather.

Between 1980 and 1990 when I was working in Guam, Carmen's mother called me that our daughter, Carmen, was in jail. She had left her kids at home alone with no one to take care for them. Their

neighbor called 911 and reported that they saw her in the poker room while her kids were home, alone and hungry. This story happened long time ago. She had been punished and, maybe, the judge threw the book on her. All her friends had changed their lifestyle because of their growing family. This time Carmelita's case was an accident because she was not attempting to kill her boyfriend since both of them were drunk and her boyfriend was under a temporary restraining order and not jailed. Carmelita said she didn't like shouting and that's why she went out and started the car but the boyfriend tried to stop her and grabbed the key and broke the car's window. Carmen, then, stepped on the gas pedal and almost struck her boyfriend. She was charged with driving while intoxicated, attempted murder, and disturbing the

peace. She was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment. Like I said, this case was an accident because both were drunk. In court, the boyfriend dropped all charges and that he was willing to go back to Carmen. The boyfriend said Carmen was a good mother and that he said to me that he was very sorry and that had he not disturbed my daughter, this matter would have happened.

I am happy about what I have read in the newspaper that there are legal experts and that all island neighbors do come together to discuss the parole and I hope for those experts in the law to reconsider Carmelita for parole for Christmas.

Teddy Guiao
Navy Hill, Saipan

Scare tactic

Reading your article "Shame on you!" made me think twice and I am determined to respond to your opinion. As we all know, our opinions are not valid for we are not part of the study groups or indigenous groups and we are just bystanders in our so-called island chain. It is very sad to read derogatory comments toward our brothers and sisters in the CNMI who had contributed to our economic growth in the past. It is useless to voice our opinions in the CNMI, because we are the minority and our voices do not matter. If I were you; I will concentrate my efforts communicating with other U.S. congressional representatives throughout the United States to support the United States Senate Bill 744. The United States Congress has neither the time to listen to bigotry nor any races resolu-

tion trying to deprive other ethnicities advancement in our island chain. The last time I check, the Mariana Island chain belongs to the people of the CNMI collectively and whoever is claiming that the CNMI is rightfully theirs is a bunch of bigots. The CNMI House of Representatives Resolution 18-34 is a scare tactic to win an election and our elected officials are positioning themselves to get re-elected. On a second note, the CNMI Supreme Court is the only Appellate Court in our island chain and any decisions made by our appellate court set precedents in the CNMI. The only way to challenge any ruling from our appellate court is to route such predicament via the United States Supreme Court and hopefully they will consider hearing such case. Before questioning the legality of our appellate

court's decision take the time to get a legal opinion from an attorney, so our tax dollars are not wasted on issues that can be resolved by consulting with the legal professionals. State attorney generals may interpret the laws of their prospective states, but their interpretations are just opinions and not legal binding. How in the world would an attorney general's opinion supersede an appellate court's decision, especially when the only appellate court in the CNMI is our CNMI Supreme Court? A high school graduate like me should know better that an appellate court decisions sets precedents in our society.

Segundo Castro
Marpo Valley, Tinian

HATE

From Page 13

want the high paying job with hardly any labor, right? You wouldn't want to be a maid. You wouldn't dare be a janitor. These foreigners know that a job is a job and they aren't afraid of hard labor. That's why they are hired and not you. Why would an employer want to hire someone they don't think would do the job right? And are you afraid that once these foreigners are of equal status that they might want to run for office as well? What's the scary part about that? Is it that maybe, just maybe, they actually have the economy in mind and want to fix it? That they will cut any private connections to government funding? Or maybe they will be making a lot of changes like getting rid of those hired because of connections and actually hiring people for the position who are qualified for the job?

In the end, it all falls down to selfish and racist reasons for wanting to deny them equal status as us. Many of these foreigners have children who are born and raised on Saipan. Saipan is the only home many of them know now. Because Mr. Rodeo is of "foreign" de-

scent, there are already many telling him many negative things. I bet there will be many negative comments on the websites of the newspapers in less than 24 hours of it being published. Many will say derogatory things about him and put him down for voicing out as if he has no right to say what he said. But he does. He is just as much a local as I am. Saipan is just as much his home as it is mine and yours. Just like so many "foreigners" in the CNMI, he knows Saipan as his only home and he loves our islands just as much as we all do. He is no different from me. He has the betterment of our home at heart and his life goal is to get the education needed so he can go back home and make things better for all of us. He wants to make our economy and home better and I can't say the same for majority of those currently up in Capital Hill.

This letter is written by a fellow "Chamorro/Carolinian." I am most likely related to you one way or another, the local currently reading this. You probably have known me all your life and if not me, you know my parents. You know my family. I am someone who is one of you and I agree with everything Mr. Rodeo said. It's time we make a change, my dear people of the CNMI. We need to change for the betterment of ourselves... our home... our future...

our children. Put the hate and discrimination aside. We are all the same on the inside. We are all human beings.

Sharmaine Pua
La Grande, Oregon

HISTORIC

From Page 11

only Virginia and Washington state (which, like Texas, has no state income tax).

"In fact, Texas's low-tax, light-regulation policies have produced a highly diversified economy that from 2002 to 2011 created nearly one-third of the nation's highest-paying jobs. In those years, its number of upper- and middle-income jobs grew 24 percent.

Our huge ship of deficit is steadily sinking in the harbor of bankruptcy. The stationary and deepening economic dystopia would eventually drag everything and everybody down. By then, it would be too late to try rearranging the chairs on the deck.

A disappearing state, Kiribati

Kiribati made an impassioned plea today at the UN Climate Talks in Warsaw, calling for urgent action against climate change now—"time is running out for us."

Climate change poses the most urgent security challenge for Kiribati. Now. We are in the front line of all this."

Presented the Minister of Environment, Lands and Agriculture Development of Kiribati, Tiarite George Kwong when delivering his statement during the High Level Segment.

Kiribati told the interna-

tional community that they are putting in place measures so their people have the option to migrate with dignity when their homes are no longer inhabitable because of the impacts of climate change. The Government is exploring long term survivability and self-reliance options that ensures sustainability of culture, heritage and identity of the Kiribati people.

"We are looking at the various options available to a "disappearing" state, the legalities and the precedents. We are buying land offshore to en-

hance food security for our people. We are also working on improving the education and the skills of our people to a level where they are able to compete for jobs in the international labour market. We have facilitated overseas employment and permanent emigration opportunities for our people."

The fate of this disappearing state is in the hands of developed countries.

Here at the 19th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Kiribati

is trying to remain optimistic in the face of the announcement from Japan, home of the Kyoto Protocol as they scale back their target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Negotiations go right through the night lasting longer than 24 hours at a time as small island nations fight for the right to survive.

"The challenges facing us as we gather again for this 19th session of COP here in Warsaw are even greater and urgent than when we met a year ago. Security challenges posed by climate change con-

tinue to undermine our efforts, the global family of nations to achieve sustainable development our efforts as a global community to work towards peace and security. For some of us, it is a plea for basic survival."

It was during the statement today that Kiribati also called for the Green Climate Fund to be resourced as soon as possible to start operations by the end of 2014, allowing for improved access in particular for Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries through direct access.

The final words of the Kiribati Minister was addressed to the President of the COP hosted by Warsaw, Poland.

"We have every confidence

that under your able presidency and the Polish Government's leadership, you will craft and steer this UNFCCC process to new innovative levels that can help set a new people-oriented course for this crucial multilateral process.

When all of us return to our respective homes from Warsaw, to our respective children, and grandchildren we must be able to look them in the eye and tell them with all honest that we have done all that is within our collective powers to combat the devastating consequences of climate change."

The UNFCCC COP 19 is hosted in Warsaw Poland from 11 to 22 November. (SPREP/PACNEWS)

Guam medical mission to PH is largest private team headed to disaster area

Guam—The Guam Medical Association will be on its way to the Philippines tomorrow for a Medical Mission in typhoon hit areas of the Philippines. PNC will be a part of this mission and we will be reporting live on K57 and sharing with you what some of our courageous doctors and nurses will be doing during this mission.

GMA President Dr. Tom Shieh briefed us this afternoon on where the medical team will be headed and the situation in some of those typhoon-hit areas. The first area the team will head to is Daanbantayan in Cebu. There, he notes, is where the worst devastation occurred. There is still no power and people are still suffering, he says.

The second town the mission team will head to will have power, but the town is still in desperate need of medical attention and basic supplies. In that town of Sogod, he notes, there was about 80 percent devastation.

Dr. Shieh went over some of the security issues and general challenges we may face in the typhoon stricken areas. But he also optimistically announced that GMA will be the largest private medical contingency team to help with relief efforts. Something, he says, Guam should be proud of.

"What I heard from St. Luke's is that we're actually the largest private medical delegation that's heading out to the disaster. The rest are actually not private I suppose, public or government funded," he states.

Guam dentist Dr. Roger Kaneshiro is also part of the medical team and he has perhaps the most experience with medical missions. He's been on 12 missions with the Army National Guard, several of them in the Philippines.

"We're in a very, very rustic environment. We're lucky to have cement floors, or sometimes dirt floors. They're usually

held in schools or community centers and it's not the type of school you would normally see here in the United States. This is really third world. They have roofs that leak the tables are very rickety. They're very old and dilapidated," he explains.

With widespread power outages, another challenge, he points out, is lighting.

"Bear in mind we have a lot of limitations. Our basic limitations is the rustic environment, our medications and day light. Day light is our biggest problem. We can't work after dark. We can't see if there's no electricity," he adds.

And while the situation may be dismal, Dr. Kaneshiro offers an uplifting perspective

"Every mission there's always a patient that would come up and say something or do something. One of my most fond moments, there's this little girl and I took out a tooth on her and she came and gave me a big hug and squeezed

me and said something in Tagalog. I asked my interpreter what she said and she said she's so happy because 'now it doesn't hurt.' And that—my heart just sank. I had to gather up my emotions and gather my composure. But it's memories like that that makes me go back to the Philippines," he says. "I have nothing to lose. I have all to gain."

Dr. Shieh also emphasized that this mission would not be possible without the collaboration and partnership of St. Luke's Medical Center.

Also, PNC would not be able to join this mission without the generous support of the Agana Shopping Center, Mark's Sporting Goods, Submarina and Docomo Pacific.

Docomo will be providing us with smartphones to use during this trip so that we'll be able to share with you, our viewers and listeners, what's happening on the ground. (Pacific News Center)

Air Force to conduct training at Farallon de Medinilla

ASAN, Guam—The Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Nov. 25 from 11am to 3pm and from 9pm to 11:55pm
- Nov. 26 and 28 from 1am to 4am

The general public especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides access frequency that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-3209. (PR)

HAPPY SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 25th wedding anniversary Dad Bernard and Mom Glenda Cabrera. May the Lord bless you both on your special day with love, joy, and happiness. Love, Kim, Eric, and Baby Izaiah



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

FIRE CHIEFS CONFAB

Participants of the Annual Western Pacific Islands Association of Fire Chiefs Conference listen to the presentation of U.S. Fire Administrator Ernest Mitchell Jr. during the kick-off of the three-day conference last Wednesday at Fiesta Resort and Spa's Hibiscus Hall. Mitchell served as the keynote speaker.

Guam government finds extra \$20 million

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Guam's government received \$20 million more than it expected during the most recent fiscal year, but few people knew about it because computer systems at territorial agencies aren't connected.

The Pacific Daily News reports about three-quarters of the extra money came from federal sources. It wasn't clear where the rest came from. Calls to the Bureau of Budget and Management Research weren't immediately returned Tuesday.

Most of the money was used to pay tax refunds.

Several Democratic senators are concerned that the administration didn't let them know about the money while the Legislature was discussing the budget.

"It's unforgivable because we went through the entire budget without this information," said Vice Speaker Benjamin Cruz.

Cruz, a Democrat representing Piti, said knowing the local gov-

ernment had \$20 million more than what was anticipated would have allowed senators to discuss the best use of that money.

Some said they could have used the money to pay for health care, education and other priorities.

Last week, Cruz held an oversight hearing to discuss the government's struggle with information technology.

He expressed concern that the Bureau of Budget and Management Research didn't submit consolidated revenue and expenditures reports, which are mandated by law.

Officials explained they failed to send the reports because of problems integrating systems belonging to the Department of Administration and the Department of Revenue and Taxation.

John Rios, the budget management bureau's director, wrote lawmakers in a letter that the agencies are trying to fix the problem so they may submit the reports on time.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

JEOPROA-DY
Northern Marianas College students, faculty, and staff members attempt to answer a question about the college's history in the recent "Jeo-PROA-dy" challenge at the Student Center. Jeo-PROA-dy was a friendly trivia challenge between a team of NMC students and a team of faculty and staff members. Topics covered included NMC's history, facts about NMC and other U.S. colleges, and pop culture. This event was part College Month activities.

PNA must cut purse-seine juvenile bigeye catches

HONOLULU, Hawaii—A proposal that would subject the U.S. longline tuna fisheries to a 45-percent reduction in bigeye tuna catch is being proposed by the Parties of Nauru Agreement (PNA), an organization that has supported rampant expansion of tuna purse-seining in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO), says Arnold Palacios, chair of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (WPRFMC). This impact of the purse-seine expansion has led to bigeye overfishing and a 75 percent reduction in bigeye yield.

Next month, at the 10th regular meeting of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC10) in Cairns, Australia, 32 countries and territories will try to develop a new conservation and management measure applicable to the world's largest tuna fisheries.

The PNA chief executive officer, Dr. Transform Aqorau, has stated in a Nov. 18, 2013, press release that new rules for tuna fishing in the Western and Central Pacific must cut catches of bigeye tuna by longline fishing

vessels, especially in the high seas. Dr. Aqorau specifically singled out the Hawaii longline fleet, which ironically takes only a fraction of the WCPO bigeye catch and is considered the world's best managed longline fishery.

The PNA manages the world's largest tuna purse-seine fishery. Tuna purse-seiners target skipjack tuna, which is commonly used in canned tuna products. Much of this fishing is conducted around anchored and free floating fish aggregating devices (FADs), which results in the unintended catch of large numbers of juvenile bigeye tuna. This catch of juvenile bigeye, which accounts for about 85 percent of the bigeye tuna landed in the WCPFC Convention Area, has reduced the maximum sustainable yield (MSY) of the stock and has contributed to bigeye overfishing since the late 1980s.

Mature bigeye for the sashimi and fresh fish market is the main catch of the Hawaii longline fleet. The Hawaii longline fleet has been fishing at 90 percent of its 2004 bigeye catch as part of the current WCPFC management

measures.

"We see no reason to make any further cuts to U.S. bigeye longline catch limits because the Hawaii longline fleet operates thousands of miles from the high fishing mortality zone and there is no indication that the bigeye caught by the Hawaii fleet mixes with the fish caught in PNA waters," Palacios says.

"Recent statements by Dr. Aqorau are misleading and avoid addressing the rapid expansion of purse-seine fishing that has put the sustainability of bigeye in jeopardy," Palacios adds.

"Dr. Aqorau's claim that PNA countries have taken many measures to reduce the impact of purse-seine fishing on bigeye tuna stocks is not supported by the evidence," Palacios continues. "About 90 percent of the bigeye fishing mortality occurs in the equatorial zone. The purse-seine fleet that fishes in PNA waters has grown from about 200 vessels at the turn of the millennium to about 300 at present. The WCPO purse-seine catch of skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye has shown no sign of decline, and the purse-seine catch estimate for bigeye tuna for 2012

(69,164 mt) was again among the highest on record. On the other hand, the longline bigeye catch in the WCPO has declined from around 100,000 mt in 2004 to about 75,000 mt in 2012."

Palacios also questions Dr. Aqorau's statement that "we've got to make sure those nations that fish our tuna stocks also put in the hard work that goes into managing them."

"The way I read it, the PNA has assumed ownership over all tuna in the Western and Central Pacific," Palacios says. "Our Hawaii longline fleet catches fish in the U.S. exclusive economic zone around Hawaii and in the adjacent high seas outside of the U.S. zone. The PNA does not own these fish, and the WPRFMC has had management measures (vessel monitoring system, permit and reporting, observer coverage, limited entry, fishing vessel size limits, etc.) for the Hawaii longline fleet for more than 20 years. The most recent bigeye stock assessment shows that most of the fishing effort and fishing mortality for bigeye occurs from purse-seine and longline vessels fishing within the equatorial band between 10 deg

N and 10 deg S. Approximately 98 percent of the Hawaii longline fleet bigeye tuna catch is caught above 10 deg north, outside of this band of intensive fishing activity."

Palacios adds, "The excessive purse seine catches of small bigeye means that 75 percent of the potential yield of the Western and Central Pacific bigeye is being lost. These small fish could grow up and become valuable adult fish, which could bring global economic benefits. The real tragedy about bigeye is that the purse seiners are not even targeting bigeye, yet they are driving the stock's MSY down. A sustainable bigeye fishery is in Hawaii's interest, whereas the PNA couldn't care less about bigeye."

Kitty Simonds, executive director of the WPRFMC, expressed disappointment at the PNA remarks. "The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council has tried to

Candle lighting remembrance program on Dec. 8

A local grief support group is planning their 2nd Annual Candle Lighting Remembrance Program in conjunction with The Compassionate Friends' 17th annual Worldwide Candle Lighting on Dec. 8, 2013, at 6:30 pm, at the Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

Candles will be lit at 7pm in each time zone, making a virtual 24-hour wave of light around the world.

There will be a slideshow presentation, music, and readings of loved one's names. If you would like your child's or sibling's photo included in the slide show, please e-mail one to three photos to nelsonkrum@msn.com before Sunday, Dec. 1, 2013.

Attendees are welcome to

help the purse-seine fishery by providing financial support to research minimizing juvenile bigeye purse-seine catch. But the bottom line is the longline fisheries, including the Hawaii fishery, have made real cuts in catches of bigeye. Instead of making nonsensical attacks on the well managed Hawaii longline fishery, which catches less than 3 percent of the total WCPO bigeye catch, the PNA should get its own house in order—cap purse-seine capacity, limit fishing catch and effort, and establish meaningful measures to reduce catches of juvenile bigeye tuna."

The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council was established by Congress to manage fisheries in offshore waters around Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Pacific remote island areas. For more information, visit www.wpcouncil.org or email info.wpcouncil@noaa.gov; phone (808) 522-8220, or fax (808) 522-8226. (PR)

Fuse recovered from Won Pat International Airport

TAMUNING, Guam—Sailors from Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 5 Det. Marianas safely disposed of a U.S. Mechanical Time Fuse found at A.B. Won Pat International Airport in Tamuning last Nov. 21.

Transportation Security Administration (TSA) personnel discovered the fuse in a baggage and confiscated it from a tourist who was transiting through Guam. The tourist found the object while diving in Chuuk and wanted to keep the item as a souvenir. Airport police secured the scene and

EODMU-5 was contacted.

EODMU-5 Det. Marianas responded to the report of possible unexploded ordnance (UXO) and identified the object as a U.S. Mechanical Time Fuse. The fuse was deemed safe for transport and disposed of at the Navy Munitions Site on Naval Base Guam.

EODMU-5 Det. Marianas Officer in Charge Lt. Dhruv Parashar said residents should remember to be careful when coming into contact with UXO.

The mission of EODMU-5 Det. Marianas is to render safe all types of ordnance, conventional

and unconventional, improvised, chemical, biological, and nuclear to include Improvised Explosive Devices and Weapons of Mass Destruction. They perform land and underwater location, identification, render-safe, and recovery or disposal of foreign and domestic ordnance. They conduct demolition of hazardous munitions, pyrotechnics, and retrograde explosives using detonation and burning techniques.

For more information on EODMU-5 Det. Marianas, visit the command's website at <http://www.eodmu5.navy.mil/>. (PR)

bring a framed photo or small memento of their loved one for a display. Light refreshments will be served following the ceremony. Please feel free to bring your child's favorite dessert.

The Compassionate Friends (TCF, <http://www.compassionatefriends.org/home.aspx>) is a national mutual assistance, self-help organization that offers friendship, understanding and support to family members who have experienced the death of a son, daughter, brother, sister, or grandchild, and helps others better assist grieving families.

Please contact Jill Derickson at jill@pticom.com or 287-5227 for further information. (PR)

Business

If gov't backs in-flight calls, will the airlines?

NEW YORK (AP)—The Federal Communications Commission might be ready to permit cellphone calls in flight. But what about the airlines?

Old concerns about electronics being a danger to airplane navigation have been debunked. And airlines could make some extra cash charging passengers to call a loved one from 35,000 feet. But that extra money might not be worth the backlash from fliers who view overly chatty neighbors as another inconvenience to go along with smaller seats and stuffed overhead bins.

"Common courtesy goes out the window when people step in that metal tube," says James Patrick II, a frequent flier from Newnan, Ga. "You think the debates and fistfights over reclining the seat back was bad. Wait until guys start slugging it out over someone talking too loud on the phone."

That's one of the reasons the country's largest flight attendant union has come out against allowing calls in flight. The FCC is proposing to lift an existing ban, and airlines would have to decide whether to let passengers make calls. The ban would remain in effect during takeoff and landing.

Modest deal breaks deadlock at UN climate talks

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—Avoiding a last-minute breakdown, annual U.N. climate talks limped forward Saturday with a modest set of decisions meant to pave the way for a new pact to fight global warming.

More than 190 countries agreed in Warsaw to start preparing "contributions" for the new deal, which is supposed to be adopted in 2015.

That term was adopted after China and India objected to the word "commitments" in a standoff with the U.S. and other developed countries.

The fast-growing economies say they are still developing countries and shouldn't have to take on as strict commitments to cut carbon emissions as industrialized nations.

Boeing advises about engine icing problems

WASHINGTON (AP)—Boeing is alerting airlines about possible engine icing problems on some of its new planes. It is recommending that planes with a specific General Electric engine avoid flying near thunderstorms that might contain ice crystals.

Boeing spokesman Marc Birtel said Saturday that Boeing issued the advisory after ice crystal formation in some instances diminished engine per-



In this Thursday, Oct. 31, 2013 file photo, a passenger checks his cell phone while boarding a flight, in Boston.

Delta Air Lines is the only major airline to explicitly state that voice calls won't be allowed on its flights, even if the FCC allows it. Delta says years of feedback from customers show "the overwhelming sentiment" is to continue prohibiting calls.

Other airlines aren't as firm.

United Airlines says that if the FCC changes its rules, "we will study it along with feedback from customers and crews." American Airlines has offered a similar approach. So has JetBlue, which says it would "welcome the opportu-

nity to explore" voice calls but "would prioritize making the cabin comfortable and welcoming for all."

Confused yet?

Well, to complicate matters even more, the airlines actually don't need to wait for the FCC. Yes, the government would need to remove the restriction for you to make normal calls in flight. But there are already plenty of ways to make calls legally over airline Wi-Fi networks, while keeping your phone in "airplane mode." The airlines just choose to block such calls.

down firm commitments on how they plan to fulfill a pledge to scale up climate financing to developing countries to \$100 billion by 2020.

That money is meant to help developing countries transition to cleaner energy sources and adapt to shifts in climate that can affect agriculture, human health and economies in general.

"I think we had a good outcome in the end. It was quite a tough negotiation," U.S. climate envoy Todd Stern said.

The U.N. climate talks were launched two decades ago after scientists warned that humans were warming the planet by pumping CO₂ and other heat-trapping gases into the atmosphere, primarily through the burning of fossil fuels.

The wording was vague enough to make rich countries feel comfortable that they weren't going to be held liable for climate catastrophes in the developing world.

U.S. and other rich countries also resisted demands to put

tric Co.'s GEnx engine. In its statement, Boeing said that GE is "working diligently" to deal with the issue and that corrective changes "will be introduced into the fleet as soon as they are available."

It's the latest problem to confront the 787. Earlier this year, the 787 was grounded after two planes suffered from smoldering batteries. Flights resumed after Boeing redesigned the battery system.

Nation

Powerful storm system blasts US West; 8 killed

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—A powerful storm system that has caused hundreds of accidents across the Western U.S. has marched eastward with predictions of widespread snow, freezing temperatures and gusty winds.

The fierce weather has caused at least eight deaths and prompted advisories Saturday afternoon in New Mexico and Texas.

As thick, gray clouds covered the Southwest, forecasters said the storm would sweep across the South and toward the Atlantic coast next week, causing problems for holiday travelers.

Joe Harris, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service, said the "Nordic outbreak" will "produce a mixed bag of wily weather that will end up impacting much of the nation."

In New Mexico, authorities and residents braced for the second hit of a one-two punch that had already blanketed parts of the state with snow

and freezing rain and caused a rollover accident that killed a 4-year-old girl in the eastern part of the state.

Three other storm-related deaths were reported Saturday in a crash in the Texas Panhandle involving nearly a dozen vehicles.

In California, where the storm system hit first, prompting flooding and water rescues in recent days, three deaths have been linked to the storms since Thursday, as authorities found one body near downed power lines, one man crashed his vehicle into a tree and a woman was killed when a tree fell on a parked car.

In Arizona, firefighters recovered the body of a man who was swept away by high waters Friday in the Santa Cruz River in the southern part of the state.

The storm already has affected much of the Western U.S., causing hundreds of rollover accidents and prompting officials to cancel events and close roads.

Arizona debacle spotlights child-welfare agencies

PHOENIX (AP)—A scandal in which 6,000 child-abuse complaints in Arizona were filed away and never investigated illustrated what advocates say is a tragically common problem across the U.S.: Many child-protection agencies have crushing workloads and inadequate oversight.

In some cases, those flaws have led to deaths and criminal charges against social workers.

"This is a system that years ago was dubbed a poor system for poor people, and very often the resources are not there to do this very difficult and very important work," said Dr. Howard Dubowitz, a pediatrician who studies child protection policies at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

"The notion that this is a system that is nicely equipped to fulfill its mandate is often a dream that some of us are hanging onto."

Arizona officials promised prompt action after it was disclosed Thursday that over the past four years, a team at the state Child Protective Services agency tried to cope with the heavy workload by overlooking thousands of complaints to the statewide child-abuse hotline.

ACROSS THE NATION

SC child taken 20 years ago safe in Australia

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP)—A woman accused of abducting her infant daughter from South Carolina 20 years ago has been located in Australia and is facing extradition back to the United States to face charges, federal authorities announced this week. On Thursday, U.S. Attorney Bill Nettles said that an indictment had been unsealed charging Dorothy Lee Barnett, 53, with international

parental kidnapping and making a false statement on a passport application. Her daughter, Savanna Catherine Todd, now 20, was in Australia living a normal life, Nettles said.

Texas ricin suspect cuts deal, details unknown

TEXARKANA, Texas (AP)—A Texas woman accused of sending ricin-laced letters to President Barack Obama and New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg has reached a plea deal with federal prosecutors,

In Nevada, snow in high elevations in the rural, eastern part of the state stranded dozens of cars. No fatalities were reported and authorities got the road open again by Saturday.

In Arizona, rain came down Saturday as more than 8,000 cyclists competed in the annual El Tour de Tucson. Also, high school football games, soccer tournaments and parades were cancelled across the state.

Forecasters said parts of both California and Arizona could expect severe weather with winter storm warnings through Saturday. Weather officials said the mountains and the Antelope Valley foothills northeast of Los Angeles were under the most risk. However, they said there was only a small chance of rainstorms like those that prompted flooding in California on Thursday.

In New Mexico, it was unclear where the heaviest bands of snow would develop, meteorologist Jennifer Palucki said.

Under state law, all reports generated via the hotline must be investigated.

So far, authorities re-examining the cases have identified at least 125 in which children were later alleged to have been abused. No deaths have been connected to the lapses.

Clarence Carter, who as director of Arizona's Department of Economic Security oversees CPS, called the situation "cause for grave alarm," and Gov. Jan Brewer has ordered an investigation.

Child-welfare advocates said the Arizona debacle is not an isolated incident.

In North Carolina, a county social worker faces nearly four years in prison after pleading guilty to trying to cover up her agency's role after a child's death.

Prosecutors said that after the 2011 death of 15-month-old Aubrey Kina-Marie Littlejohn, social worker Candice Lassiter ordered a subordinate to falsify records to make it appear that the Swain County Department of Social Services had done a thorough job investigating allegations that the girl had been abused.

a newspaper reported Saturday. Assistant U.S. Attorney Frank Coan added into the case docket for Shannon Guess Richardson a one-line entry that states "notice of plea agreement," the Texarkana Gazette reported. Authorities say the New Boston, Texas, actress mailed ricin-laced letters to Obama, Bloomberg and a leader of the mayor's gun-control group. Court documents state the then-pregnant Richardson tried to frame her husband for the crime.

Asia

PH typhoon death toll rises above 5,000

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The death toll from one of the strongest typhoons on record has risen above 5,000 and is likely to climb further, although recovery efforts are beginning to take hold, Philippine officials said Friday.

Interior Secretary Mar Roxas said 4,919 people were killed on Leyte, Samar and nearby islands in the Eastern Visayas region. Civil defense chief Eduardo del Rosario said 290 others died in other parts of the central and southern Philippines.

The regions were battered two weeks ago by fierce winds and tsunami-like storm surges from Typhoon Haiyan, locally called Yolanda.

Del Rosario said there were 1,611 people still missing.

"That is the sad record of Yolanda's passage through our country," Roxas said. But he added that "The worst is over."

He likened the region to a patient that has been moved out of the emergency room into an intensive care unit.

"We have overcome the most difficult part," he said. "In the first week we can say we were in the emergency room ... this second week we are now in the ICU, still critical but stabilized."

He said the hard-hit Leyte provincial capital of Tacloban reported 1,725 dead. "I believe this number in Tacloban city is not yet final," he said.

Most of the bodies have been buried in mass graves, many of them unidentified, he said.

"It is possible that some of the missing are among the unidentified."

China sets air defense zone over East China Sea

BEIJING (AP)—The Chinese Defense Ministry on Saturday issued a map of an East China Sea Air Defense Identification Zone that includes a chain of disputed islands also claimed by Japan, triggering a protest from Tokyo. The United States also expressed concern about China's "unilateral action."

Beijing also issued a set of rules for the zone, saying all aircraft must notify Chinese authorities and are subject to emergency military measures if they do not identify themselves or obey orders from Beijing. It said it would "identify, monitor, control and react" to any air threats or unidentified flying objects coming from the sea.

The rules went into effect Saturday.

In Tokyo, Junichi Ihara, head of the Foreign Ministry's Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau, protested by phone to China's acting ambassador to Japan, Han Zhiqiang, saying the zone is "totally unacceptable," according to a ministry statement.

Ihara also criticized China for "one-sidedly" setting up the



Relatives of Rolando Palermo check cadaver bags containing the remains of typhoon victims along a road in Tacloban city, hoping to find his body Friday Nov. 22, 2013, two weeks after the typhoon struck in central Philippines.

AP

8 and quickly barreled across its central islands, packing winds of 235 kilometers (147 miles) per hour and gusts of up to 275 kph (170 mph), with a storm surge of 6 meters (20 feet).

Even though authorities evacuated about 800,000 people ahead of the typhoon, the death toll was high because many evacuation centers—schools, churches and government buildings—could not withstand the winds and water. Officials said people who sought shelter in the buildings drowned or were swept away.

The United States and about two dozen other governments quickly sent aid. Bottlenecks, including roads blocked by debris, damaged vehicles and a lack of personnel, held up the distribution of relief supplies in the first week.

Both Beijing and Tokyo claim the islets, called Diaoyu in Chinese and Senkaku in Japanese. Protests erupted throughout China last year to denounce the Japanese government's purchase of the islands from private ownership.

A rising economic and military power, China has become more assertive over its maritime claims. It has been in disputes with several neighboring countries over islands in the East and South China seas.

"By establishing the air-defense zone Beijing has ... potentially escalated the danger of accidental collisions between the Chinese military and the U.S. and Japanese counterparts," said Tomohiko Taniguchi, a counselor in the office of Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. "It poses a serious challenge against freedom of movement in the sky and in the seas."

China said the zone is in line with the practice of other nations that have similar zones to protect their coasts. The new

zone overlaps with Japan's existing zone, which also includes the disputed islands.

"This is a necessary measure taken by China in exercising its self-defense right," Chinese Defense Ministry spokesman Yang Yujun was quoted as saying on the ministry's website. "It is not directed against any specific country or target. It does not affect the freedom of over-flight in the related airspace."

South Korea and Taiwan also claim the barren, uninhabited islands in the East China Sea.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel issued separate statements that said the U.S. was "deeply concerned" about China's announcement regarding the East China Sea air defense zone.

"This unilateral action constitutes an attempt to change the status quo in the East China Sea," Kerry said in a statement released Saturday in Geneva where he was engaged in talks on Iran's nuclear program. "Escalatory action will only increase tensions in the region and create risks of an incident."

World

Obama: Nuke deal blocks Iran's path to bomb

GENEVA (AP)—Iran struck a historic nuclear deal Sunday with the United States and five other world powers, in the most significant development between Washington and Tehran in more than three decades of estrangement between the two nations.

The agreement commits Iran to curb its nuclear activities in exchange for limited and gradual sanctions relief. It builds on the momentum of the dialogue opened during September's annual U.N. gathering, which included a 15-minute phone conversation between President Barack Obama and Iran's new president, Hassan Rouhani.

Obama hailed the deal's provisions as key to preventing Iran from proliferating.

"Simply put, they cut off Iran's most likely paths to a bomb," he told reporters.

The deal marks a milestone between the two countries, which broke diplomatic ties 34 years ago when Iran's Islamic revolution climaxed in the storming of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. Since then, relations between the two countries have been frigid to hostile—until the recent outreach between the two presidents.

Obama hailed the deal as putting "substantial limitations" on a nuclear program that the United States and its allies fear could be turned to nuclear weapons use.

"While today's announcement is just a first step, it achieves a great deal," Obama said. "For the first time in nearly a decade, we have halted the progress of the Iranian nuclear program, and key parts of the program will be rolled back."

Although the deal lowered tensions between the two countries, friction points

remain—notably Iran's support of the Syrian regime of Bashar Assad. The United States has accused Iran of supporting terrorism throughout the region and of widespread human rights violations.

A White House statement called the nuclear agreement an "initial, six-month step."

Specifically, the statement said the deal limits Iran's existing stockpiles of enriched uranium, which can be turned into the fissile core of nuclear arms.

The statement also said the accord curbs the number and capabilities of the centrifuges used to enrich and limits Iran's ability to "produce weapons-grade plutonium" from a reactor in the advanced stages of construction.

The statement also said Iran's nuclear program will be subject to "increased transparency and intrusive monitoring."

"Taken together, these first step measures will help prevent Iran from using the cover of negotiations to continue advancing its nuclear program as we seek to negotiate a long-term, comprehensive solution that addresses all of the international community's concerns," said the statement.

In return, the statement promised "limited, temporary, targeted, and reversible (sanctions) relief" to Iran, noting that "the key oil, banking, and financial sanctions architecture, remains in place." And it said any limited sanctions relief will be revoked and new penalties enacted if Iran fails to meet its commitments.

Those conditions have been highlighted by the Obama administration in its efforts to persuade Congress

to hold off on any new sanctions and give the Iran accord a chance to prove its worth. But one influential member of Congress was quick to criticize the deal.

Ed Royce, the Republican chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, expressed "serious concerns," saying the United States was "relieving Iran of the sanctions pressure built up over years," while allowing Tehran to "keep the key elements of its nuclear weapons-making capacity."

Royce called on U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry to "address the many concerns with this agreement" in front of the committee.

Kerry flew to Geneva on Saturday, joining forces with foreign ministers of the nations negotiating with Iran to push the deal through early Sunday, as the negotiations entered their fifth day.

"Agreement in Geneva," Kerry tweeted. "First step makes world safer. More work now."

Kerry said the first-step deal will make Israel—an arch enemy of Iran—safer. He was trying to pacify Israel's vehement opposition to the deal.

Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has loudly criticized the agreement, saying the international community is giving up too much to Iran, which it believes will retain the ability to produce a nuclear weapon and threaten Israel.

Israeli Intelligence Minister Yuval Steinitz, who is responsible for monitoring Iran's nuclear program, said there is no reason for the world to be celebrating. He says the deal, reached in Geneva early Sunday, is based on "Iranian deception and self-delusion."

WORLD BRIEFS

Activists: Government airstrikes kill 44 in Syria

BEIRUT (AP)—A string of government airstrikes on rebel-held areas in northern Syria killed at least 44 people Saturday, activists said, as al-Qaida-linked rebels captured one of the country's major oil fields in the east. An attack on the rebel-held town of al-Bab near the northern city of Aleppo was the deadliest of the three raids, killing 22 people, said Rami Abdurrahman, the director of the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. Fighter jets also bombed two rebel-held districts of Aleppo, Syria's largest city. Government warplanes missed their target in the Halwaniyah neighborhood and sent bombs into a crowded vegetable market, killing 15 people, Abdurrahman said. Seven people died in a third airstrike in the Karam el-Beik district, according to the activist group. The Observatory has been documenting the conflict by relying on a network of activists on the ground.

3rd section of Latvian supermarket roof collapses

RIGA, Latvia (AP)—A massive third section of the roof at a Latvian supermarket where at least 54 people were killed fell Saturday as emergency workers searched nearby rubble for more victims. Though no one was injured, officials suspended the effort as they considered the dangers of continuing the search in the unstable building. Latvia's president described the disaster at the Maxima supermarket in Riga, the worst in the Baltic country since it regained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, as "murder" and called for a speedy investigation into its cause. Investigators are looking at faulty construction or work on the roof's grass- and gravel-covered surface as the potential cause of the initial collapse in the crowded supermarket on Thursday. Workers were installing a garden area and children's playground for an adjacent high-rise residential building.

Focus

When presidents die, power transfer can be fraught

NEW YORK (AP)—As President John F. Kennedy lay dying 50 years ago at Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas, Vice President Lyndon Johnson was hurried into a small room in Minor Medicine, where he stood silently against a wall. After a wait of some 35 minutes, presidential aide Kenneth O'Donnell entered and approached Johnson, who had been two cars behind Kennedy when the shots were fired in Dealey Plaza.

"He's gone," O'Donnell told him.

Almost instantly, onlookers would recall, LBJ's drooping features hardened into his "deciding expression." Johnson's wife, Lady Bird, would describe his look as "almost a graven image of a face carved in bronze." Johnson, a vice president so estranged from the White House that he feared for his job, was now the most powerful man in the country.

"This was a day not only when a president was killed, but a president was created," says Johnson biographer Robert Caro.

Johnson was the last of eight vice presidents to succeed a president who died in office. Some became major presidents in their own right, others were soon forgotten, and at least one was lucky to remain in office.

Vice presidents, often outsiders in the administration, have been humbled, traumatized and energized by what Caro has called "the passage of power."

William Henry Harrison was the first president to die in office, in 1841, succumbing to pneumonia just one month into his administration. News traveled by the speed of horses. Two State Department envoys rode to Vice President John Tyler's plantation in Williamsburg, Va., and arrived at dawn. They knocked softly on the door, then pounded on it when no one answered.

They were finally greeted by Tyler, who was still wearing his bedtime clothes, and handed him a short letter stating that "William Henry Harrison, late President of the United States, has departed this life."

The letter said nothing about Tyler's being president, and the Constitution at the time did not state clearly whether he was the president or simply the acting president. Tyler soon settled the question himself.

"I shall be pleased to avail myself of your counsel and advice," he declared during a meeting with Harrison's cabinet members. "But I can never consent to being dictated to. I am the president and shall be responsible for my administration."

When Warren Harding died in San Francisco in August

1923, Vice President Calvin Coolidge was on the opposite end of the country, visiting his father at their homestead in Vermont. There was no long distance telephone service in the Coolidge farmhouse, and the elder Coolidge was the first to learn of the news, via a local phone exchange. It was nighttime and a shaken John Coolidge climbed the stairs to wake his son and tell him that he was the president.

"I knew that something of the gravest nature had occurred," Calvin Coolidge would later write of seeing his father, a notary public who administered the oath of office.

The transfer was equally poignant in 1945, when Franklin Roosevelt died in Warm Springs, Ga. Vice President Harry Truman was in Washington and summoned to the White House. Unaware of the news, guessing he would be meeting with the president, Truman was brought up to the sitting room of first lady Eleanor Roosevelt.

"Harry, the president is dead," she told him.

"Is there anything I can do for you?" a stunned Truman responded.

"Is there anything we can do for you?" she answered. "For you are the one in trouble now."

Instant change from one president to another can be clumsy, or disastrous, if only because vice presidents are often chosen for short-term strategic reasons—such as regional or ideological balance—rather than compatibility.

Tyler became so estranged from his fellow Whigs that he was kicked out of the party. When Millard Fillmore succeeded Zachary Taylor, who died in 1850, he fired Taylor's entire cabinet, then tried (and failed) to get the cabinet back. Vice President Andrew Johnson was advised not to remain long in the room where a mortally wounded Abraham Lincoln was being treated because first lady Mary Todd Lincoln despised him.

No vice president made a more dynamic transition or fell further than Lyndon Johnson, who orchestrated landmark legislation on civil rights, health care, education and other areas only to see his presidency destroyed by his expansion of the Vietnam War. A century earlier, Andrew Johnson was nearly kicked out of office by congressional Republicans angered by his hostility to blacks and sympathy for the Southern states defeated in the recent Civil War.

The only vice president who thoroughly overshadowed his predecessor was Theodore Roosevelt, governor of New York and a fiery reformer who



AP
In this Friday, Nov. 22, 1963 photo from the White House via the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library in Boston, Lyndon B. Johnson is sworn in as president as Jacqueline Kennedy stands at his side in the cabin of the presidential plane on the ground at Love Field in Dallas. Judge Sarah T. Hughes, a Kennedy appointee to the Federal court, left, administers the oath.

so frightened the state's party machine officials that they engineered his selection in 1900 as incumbent William McKinley's running mate.

When McKinley was shot in

September 1901 and died a week later, GOP boss Mark Hanna lamented over the "damned cowboy" now in charge. Roosevelt, who became synonymous with the Progressive era of the early

20th century, initially promised to continue McKinley's more conservative policies "absolutely unbroken." He confided his real intentions to a gathering of journalists at the White House.

"I am president," he told his visitors, "and shall act in every word and deed precisely as if I and not McKinley had been the candidate for whom the electors cast the vote for president."

In Humble Gratitude for our beloved Mother/Grand Mother

† Carmen Kotomor Olopai

To our dearest friends, families and colleagues, it is difficult to put our thoughts into words; however we appreciate your kind and helpful words, thoughts and prayers, deeds and gestures at a time when these things mean so much. Your generosity and support during our moment of grief is greatly appreciated. We thank God for the gift of families and friends.

We would also like to express our utmost appreciation for all the professional services rendered by Dr. Ahmad Al-Alou & Pacific Medical Center; Dr. Joel Smith and nurses of CHC; Theodore Parker, RPh. & Brabu Pharmacy & Wellness Center; CNMI Fire Fighters "Ambulance Crew"; Marianas Health Services nurses & therapists; CNMI Liaison Ofc in Guam; Commonwealth Cancer Association; Good Samaritan Clinic (Guam); Island Cancer Center (Guam); Apostolic Administrator Fr. Ryan Jimenes; Fr. Kenneth Urmelog; Auntie Marcy & Uncle Vic Cepeda; Kristo Rai Parish & Kantaye Kristo Rai Choir; and Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel.

Olomwaay yan Si Yu'us un fan Binendise

Children and Families



Life & Style

'Catching Fire' ablaze with \$135M at box office

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"The Hunger Games: Catching Fire" is a scorching hit at the

box office.

Lionsgate has released early numbers on what's expected to

be one of the biggest November openings ever. "Catching Fire" has grossed \$70.5 million

domestically and \$64 million internationally, bringing its total to \$135 million, the studio reported Saturday.

Numbers were from Friday's opening day, but includes some scattered preview shows on Thursday night. The sequel gained \$25.3 million from Thursday screenings.

"Catching Fire" is expected to bump two-week champ "Thor: The Dark World" out of the No. 1 slot. Full weekend ticket sales estimates at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Rentrak, will be released Sunday. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

Totals for "Catching Fire" are expected to reach \$150 million domestically over the weekend, though some reports estimated a \$170 million opener.

"This is a testament to the power of the books, the way the first film resonated across the world with audiences and Jennifer Lawrence's continued success and popularity, particularly in this role," said box-office analyst Paul Dergarabedian of Rentrak of the "Catching Fire" success. "And the movie has gotten great reviews, which means it will get great word of mouth."

The impressive opening of "Catching Fire" is expected to mark the eighth-highest domestic opening to date. "The Hunger Games," with \$67.3 million its opening night in 2012, holds the title of the sixth-highest opening weekend with \$152.5 million. "The Avengers" sits at No. 1 with \$207.4 million.

According to poll data, the popularity of "Catching Fire" is crossing over to all moviegoers, as compared to the female-heavy audience of "Hunger Games." About 12 percent more male moviegoers saw "Catching Fire" and the audience was split equally between those older and younger than 25.

The smoldering "Catching Fire" ticket sales are in line with what the studio was expecting, said Dergarabedian.

"They are going to get a wonderful second weekend with Thanksgiving," he added. "It is so important to have Thanksgiving as your second weekend. People have time off work and go out and catch up on their movie-going. It's a brilliant position to be in."



This image released by Lionsgate shows Josh Hutcherson as Peeta Mellark, left, and Jennifer Lawrence as Katniss Everdeen in a scene from "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire."

Burnett, Downey take 'The Bible' music on the road

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Mark Burnett and Roma Downey's "The Bible" franchise continues to grow in unexpected ways. Up next? A 16-city music tour featuring some of today's most popular Christian acts.

The tour begins next March following the nationwide theatrical release of "The Bible" companion film "Son of God," and will feature music inspired by and visual components from the movie and miniseries.

"I think that music just has such a wonderful ability to connect and open your heart and the images from our film certainly are going to touch your heart," Downey said. "So I think it's just going to be a really beautiful, heartfelt experience all around for people to attend."

Attend they will, if previous reaction to "The Bible" continues to hold true.

The five-part History miniseries was one of the surprise hits of 2013, averaging 11 million viewers for each episode last spring in the U.S. Burnett and Downey have been rolling it out overseas as well—it's playing in Hong Kong now and the United Kingdom is up next.

"It has continued to ripple—splash really—around the world," Downey said as the couple spoke publicly about the music tour for the first time Thursday by conference call. Burnett, producer of "The Voice," "Survivor" and other reality shows, was in Cleveland,



This image released by LightWorkers Media shows Diogo Morgado who plays Jesus in the film "The Bible."

Ohio, and actress Downey was in Boston. Both were screening "Son of God" for local religious and business leaders, looking to get support for the film before it opens Feb. 28. They plan to hit several more cities, and trailers for the movie will begin running in theaters next week.

The film comprises previously aired material from "The Bible" intercut with new scenes shot concurrently with the miniseries in Morocco in 2012.

The couple said they heard a calling from God to make the miniseries, and the franchise continues to take more and more of their lives. That's something their friend, Pastor Rick Warren, warned them about.

"Rick Warren said to me and Roma, 'You know one of the most dangerous prayers that you can pray is, 'Use me,' because he will,'" Burnett said.

"And we can see how that played out in our lives," Downey said. "We've been working for God ever since."

The music tour will open March 20 at Warren's Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, Calif., and will conclude April 13 in Baltimore. Francesca Battistelli, Sidewalk Prophets, Natalie Grant, Chris August, Meredith Andrews and Jason Gray will perform. Most of the concerts will be held at super churches and will include scenes from "The Bible" and "Son of God" mingled with photos of religious art and artifacts along with the music.

"This has been a labor of love for us," Downey said. "We didn't need a job when we took this on. ... It's a combination of everything we love, everything we believe—and we get to do it together."

Vince Vaughn focuses on family-friendly fare



This Nov. 17, 2013 file photo shows Vince Vaughn at a screening of "Delivery Man" hosted by The Cinema Society and DreamWorks Pictures in New York.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—In the new movie "Delivery Man," Vince Vaughn plays a sperm donor who learns he's fathered more than 500 kids.

In the past, that kind of scenario might have been the set up for a film with adult humor, given the actor's portfolio. But "Delivery Man" is decidedly family-friendly fare, and reflects the stage of life where the 43-year-old married father of two finds himself these days.

"I think that this is a whole other level, in that the movie, in a real non-sentimental way, takes you on a journey. That is a little bit about family, sure—connection," he said in a recent interview. "But also I think a little bit about accepting yourself, forgiving yourself. Being open to being who are, and having people accept you and interact with you,

whatever that may be."

Vaughn, whose films have included "Wedding Crashers," "Swingers," "Old School" and "The Break-Up," married Kyla Weber in 2010 and the couple has a young son and daughter. When asked how fatherhood has changed him, he pointed to his relationship with Weber.

"It's made me realize for myself how important it is, my relationship with my wife," he said. "I think the best thing you can do, on some level, as a father is to love their mom. I think there's something very simple in that, but it also really touches on a lot of different aspects."

"It is very profound. My wife for example, just me and her, as I see that when I work it falls on her," he added. "I was

fortunate, I took some time off and I've been able to be around. You realize how important it is to try to make sure that you're taking time for each other. To have some fun and to connect. To laugh and do something that you both enjoy."

Vaughn, who is also in the next month's "Anchorman 2: The Legend of Ron Burgundy," has been more involved behind the scenes, in the past, producing films like "Couples Retreat" and "The Break-Up."

But now that he's a dad, having his hand in multiple aspects of filmmaking isn't a priority anymore.

"I don't know, it just depends. It was so fun to come and do another movie. I could just show up and be an actor and go home," he said. "(I) think with the kids now it is not as motivated necessarily."



AP
This undated but recent selfie posted on Instagram by Hugh Jackman shows "The Wolverine" star with his bandaged nose.

Actor Hugh Jackman treated for skin cancer on nose

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)— "The Wolverine" star Hugh Jackman revealed he has been treated for skin cancer and shared a selfie showing his bandaged nose.

"Deb said to get the mark on my nose checked. Boy, was she right!" he wrote on Instagram, referring to his wife, Deborra-Lee Furness.

The 45-year-old Oscar-nominated Jackman said he had a basal cell carcinoma, a common form of skin cancer that is rarely fatal. The note he posted early Friday didn't say when his medical treatment took place.

"Please don't be foolish like me. Get yourself checked. And USE sunscreen!!!" he wrote.

Australia has the highest skin cancer rate in the world, and two in three Australians will be

diagnosed before age 70, according to the national health department.

Jackman is an advocate for cancer research. He has revealed that when he asked his mother-in-law Fay Duncan—president of the Fight Cancer Foundation in Australia—for her blessing when he proposed to Furness, she told him that supporting the fight against cancer was one of the requirements to get that blessing.

DeGeneres has global 'goal' for Oscarcast

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ellen DeGeneres has high aspirations for her second time around hosting the Oscars.

"It reached the world," the talk show host said of her well-received 2007 Oscarcast. "And I'm trying to get world peace. So, that's my goal. My hope is by hosting the Academy Awards, right afterward, we have world peace."

DeGeneres may have been exaggerating but there's no overstating her enthusiasm for the upcoming March 2 gig.

"I know a lot of those people," she said of the Oscar audience. "They're on my show a lot. I love the whole business. ... I get to play with all those people in the audience and make people happy, and, hopefully, relax them."

DeGeneres made her comments Friday while attending a Toys for Tots charity event in Los Angeles.



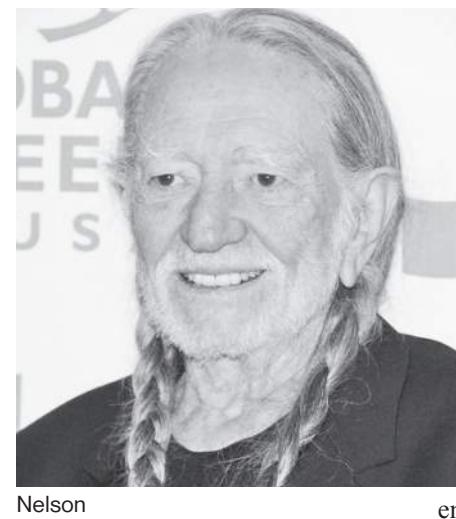
From left, Gunnery Sergeant Phillip Campo, Staff Sergeant Victor Pozo, Ellen DeGeneres, Sergeant Antonio Sanchez attend the Ellen DeGeneres officially launches the Duracell "Power a Smile" Program, on Friday, Nov. 22, 2013, at Van Nuys Airport in Los Angeles.

3 on Willie Nelson's band bus hurt in Texas

SULPHUR SPRINGS, Texas (AP)—Singer Willie Nelson has suspended performances until December after three of his band members were hurt when their bus plowed into a bridge pillar in East Texas during rainy conditions.

The Texas Department of Public Safety says Nelson was not aboard in the weather-related accident around 3:30 a.m. CST Saturday on Interstate 30 near Sulphur Springs, 75 miles northeast of Dallas.

Nelson spokeswoman Elaine Schock says Paul English broke



Nelson

his ankle, his brother Billy English suffered a bruise hip and Tom Harkin has a cracked or bruised rib.

Nelson has postponed his four remaining November tour dates: Robinsonville and Jackson, Miss.; Fayetteville, Ark.; and Lafayette, La.

Trooper Sylvia Jennings says seven people were on the

westbound bus, including the driver who was dealing with wet roads and high winds.

ABC's Robach ready to get back to work

NEW YORK (AP)—Amy Robach (ROH'-bahk) of ABC News says she can't wait to get back to work following her double mastectomy but has more cancer treatments ahead of her.

She had the surgery last week. The 40-year-old correspondent's breast cancer was discovered through a mammogram she underwent on "Good Morning America" a month earlier.

Robach revealed that a second malignant tumor had been detected during her mastectomy. Because the cancer spread to a lymph node, she said she will need further treatment.

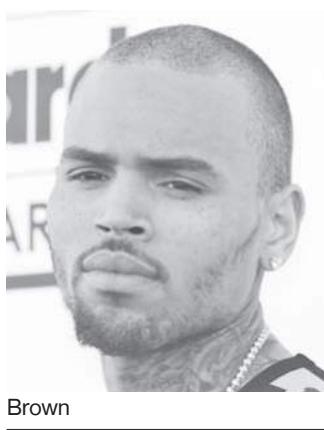
She says she expects to come back to work the Monday after Thanksgiving.

Judge lets Chris Brown skip DC court date

WASHINGTON (AP)—A judge says R&B singer Chris Brown doesn't have to travel from Los Angeles to Washington to appear in court.

D.C. Superior Judge Robert Tignor agreed Friday to let Brown waive his scheduled appearance on Monday.

Brown is facing a misdemeanor assault charge. He and bodyguard Christopher Hollingsworth were arrested last month on charges of punching a man out-



Brown

side a hotel who tried to jump into a picture with the singer.

Brown was ordered into anger management rehabilitation this week following a Los Angeles court appearance.

His lawyers say they haven't had an opportunity to review evidence with him. They told the judge it didn't make sense for him to check out of rehab and travel cross-country when all they plan to do Monday is request a new court date.

Jealous girlfriend must watch her step on the dance floor

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating my boyfriend, "Jose," for a year. Before that, we were friends for five years. Ever since I've known him, he and his half-sister, "Blanca," have danced together at parties. We're all in our mid-20s.

They dance salsa, merengue and other styles of music together. I used to think it was cute, but now that Jose and I are a couple, I find it annoying and a little creepy. He says Blanca loves to dance and can't always find good partners.

She gets mad when he dances with me instead of her during her favorite songs. I told Jose he can dance only with me at the parties or only with her. Not both. I don't want to share him, and honestly, people joke that it's incestuous.

How can I make him understand how much this bothers me? What can I say to his half-sister when she gives me the evil eye? My relationship with her is friendly, but it was better before I started dating her half-brother.

TAKES ONLY TWO TO TANGO

DEAR TAKES ONLY TWO: If you want to hang onto Jose, simmer down and be less heavy-handed. Dictating who he can dance with only makes you appear to be jealous, insecure and controlling.

Because he and Blanca have danced together for so long, it's understandable that she expects to dance with him. My advice is to be gracious and hold onto your temper, because if you don't, your relationship with Blanca will no longer be friendly, and it could cost you your boyfriend.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My mother-in-law is a good person, but she never wants to be around us or our children. She lives only 30 minutes away, has only one child (my husband) and has been widowed for more than five years. She has never called our house, didn't visit when the kids were born and usually mails gift cards at birthdays and Christmas.

My own mother died a few months ago. Our kids are almost 13 and 10, so they're not babies anymore. I try to reach out to her, but she is cold and not responsive. What else can I do?

NO GRANDMA IN AUSTIN, TEXAS

DEAR NO GRANDMA: What does your husband think about this? Has his mother always been this way? Could the problem be that she dislikes you or is disappointed in her son?

There is no way to force a connection on someone who is unwilling, and I'm not sure you would even want to. It appears your mother-in-law isn't maternal and prefers her independence. I'm sorry that your feelings are hurt, but if you crave closeness with an older woman, you will have to look elsewhere to find it.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My family is having a Thanksgiving conundrum. My uncle and his wife have offered to host the holiday. My uncle hesitated about having it because he recently lost his job. My grandmother decided that each couple should chip in \$50 to pay for the dinner. (The total amount will be \$300.) We will all make and bring dishes with us as well. Their children are not being asked to pay anything.

My grandmother thinks this is a good idea because it would cost us more than \$50 to go out to dinner for Thanksgiving, but some of us think it's odd that we're being charged to attend our family's dinner. No one else in the family is able or willing to host, so the only other option would be going to a restaurant. Any thoughts?

TURKEY TROUBLES IN PHILADELPHIA

DEAR TURKEY TROUBLES: Just this—pay up! And while you're offering thanks at the dinner table, be grateful that the person in need of financial help this holiday season isn't you.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CLASSIFIED ADS



EMPLOYMENT

(1) Operation Manager \$9.50-\$10/hr, and (3) Camera operators, Television, Video and Motion Picture - \$5.55/hr. Mail Saipan TV Production, PMB 272 Box 10000 Saipan.

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Warehouse #3 - Size: 4,000sq/ft
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Warehouse #2 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
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FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEAS CALL
235-6527/28 or 285-1317

VACANCY

Joeten Development Inc. dba Joeten Superstore is currently seeking for qualified candidates to fill the following position
(3) COOK HELPERS
Please apply in person at the J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, Inc. Human Resources Office Joeten Center, Susupe
Completed applications must be received by 4:30 PM on November 29, 2013
We are an equal opportunity employer
(NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE)

MAKE-A-WISH.
Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr., Ocean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913 Tel: (671) 649-WISH • Fax: (671) 646-6293 Email: mawguam@te.net • www.wish.org Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily
Saipan Tribune

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FEATURES:

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- Back-up Generator
- Air-conditioning in all rooms
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- Nighttime Security
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- 24hr water

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A/C, R/O Water, Washer/Dryer, Pool, Tennis Court, 24 HR Security, Centrally Located Call Ron at 322-4785 or 483-4785

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Tel: 235-8885
System Engineering Manager
Salary \$800-\$1,000
Min. 5 years experience for system engineering and marketing
Must speak, write, and read Japanese
Email resume to martindg28@yahoo.co.jp
No later than December 6, 2013

VACANCY

Ace Hardware CNMI Inc. is currently seeking for qualified candidate to fill the following position

(2) Merchandise Displayer

(2) Sales Person
(2) Warehouse

Please apply in person at the J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, Inc. Human Resources Office Joeten Center, Susupe
Completed applications must be received by 4:30 PM on November 29, 2013
We are an equal opportunity employer
(NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE)

VACANCY

Joeten Motor Company, Inc. is currently seeking for qualified candidates to fill the following position

(1) ADMIN ASSISTANT

Please apply in person at the J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, Inc. Human Resources Office Joeten Center, Susupe
Completed applications must be received by 4:30 PM on November 29, 2013
We are an equal opportunity employer
(NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE)

VACANCY

Marianas Napa, Inc. is currently seeking for qualified candidates to fill the following position

(1) Auto Parts Clerk

Please apply in person at the J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, Inc. Human Resources Office Joeten Center, Susupe
Completed applications must be received by 4:30 PM on November 29, 2013
We are an equal opportunity employer
(NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE)

FOR RENT

Hemlani Apartment

Beach Road, Chalan Kanoa

- 2-Bedroom **\$250.00**
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Semi-furnished
Willing to negotiate
Water and power not included

If interested, please call...
Telephone No. **285-9261**
235-9261

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Operations Manager

Minimum 4 years experience with Bachelor's Degree.

(2) Carpet Installers

Minimum 2 years experience with High School Graduation or equivalent.

Interested applicants please bring resume & police clearance to Innovation Inc., San Antonio, P.O.Box 504206, or call 235-5547

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WITH ATLEAST 2 - 5 YEARS EXPERIENCE

No phone call please. Interested US applicant can send their resume to acctng.cmlc@gmail.com

WORLD RESORT

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE: November 22, 2013
CLOSE DATE: November 29, 2013

POSITION: Cook (Mandarin, Korean, Western)
SALARY: Negotiable

Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent. Applicants with formal training/education in culinary arts strongly preferred. Position may require employee to receive food handler related health examinations and clearances as condition to their continued employment.

OPEN DATE: November 22, 2013
CLOSE DATE: November 29, 2013

POSITION: Server (Part Time)
SALARY: Minimum

Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) years experience in food service preferred. Position may require employee to receive food handler related health examinations and clearances as condition to their continued employment. Friendly personality, willingness to serve and a readily smiling individual highly preferred.

OPEN DATE: November 22, 2013
CLOSE DATE: November 29, 2013

POSITION: Front Desk Clerk
SALARY: Minimum

Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) years in Front Desk or concierge position strongly preferred. Must have excellent people skills, willingness to provide service, friendly attitude and a ready smile.

OPEN DATE: November 22, 2013
CLOSE DATE: November 29, 2013

POSITION: Housekeeping & Laundry Attendant
SALARY: Minimum Wage

Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum two (2) years experience in housekeeping or commercial cleaning preferred. Must have a friendly personality and willingness to provide customer service.

OPEN DATE: November 22, 2013
CLOSE DATE: November 29, 2013

POSITION: Lifeguard (Full Time & Part-time)
SALARY: Minimum Wage

Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent required. Obtaining a lifeguard certification may be a required for continued employment. Must have friendly and outgoing personality.

OPEN DATE: November 22, 2013
CLOSE DATE: November 29, 2013

POSITION: Kids College Attendant
SALARY: Minimum Wage

Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum two (2) years in kids programs preferred. Must enjoy and be comfortable interacting with young children.

OPEN DATE: November 22, 2013
CLOSE DATE: November 29, 2013

POSITION: Bellhop (Full Time & Part Time)
SALARY: Minimum Wage

Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent required. A valid Drivers License is required. Experience as a hotel bellhop preferred. Must have excellent people skills, willingness to provide service, friendly attitude and a ready smile.

OPEN DATE: November 22, 2013
CLOSE DATE: November 29, 2013

POSITION: Mechanic & Electrician
SALARY: Negotiable

Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum of two (2) years of formal mechanical experience or mechanical training in highly preferred.

For more information, please contact the Human Resources Team at (670) 234-5900 ext. 274/266/576.

Employment application forms are available at the Saipan World Resort, Security Office, located next to the Wave Jungle/Water Park. Applicants must submit the completed form and all the necessary requirements to the Security Office. Incomplete application will not be accepted by the Security Office.

WHATZIT Solution: Sitting duck

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ADS

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|---------|--------------------|
| 3-Liner | \$15 |
| 5-Liner | \$24 |

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find today's solution in classified section

LeBron's jumper lifts Heat past Magic



MIAMI (AP)—LeBron James' jumper with 15.1 seconds left put Miami ahead for good as the Heat rallied from 16 points down in the second half to beat the Orlando Magic 101-99 on Saturday.

Dwyane Wade scored 27 points in his return to the lineup after missing two games to rest his knees, James added 22 and Chris Bosh had 15 for the Heat, who have won six straight.

Glen Davis, playing for the first time since Jan. 30 because of a broken left foot, scored 20 points for the Magic, who fell to 0-5 on the road. Arron Afflalo and Victor Oladipo had shots in the final 5 seconds, but neither fell and Miami escaped.

Afflalo scored 18, Oladipo added 17 and E'Twaun Moore had all of his 14 points in the first half for Orlando, which let one slip away.

Kings 103, Clippers 102

In Los Angeles, Chris Paul scored 22 points, hitting a go-ahead free throw with 2.5 seconds left, to help the Clippers beat the Sacramento Kings after Los Angeles blew a 20-point lead in the first half.

DeAndre Jordan had 17 points and 12 rebounds, and Blake Griffin finished with 16 points and 10 boards for the Clippers, who have won 11 of their last 13 against the Kings. J.J. Redick added 15 points.

Paul's NBA-record streak of 13 straight games with at least 10 points and 10 assists to start a season ended when he finished with nine assists.

DeMarcus Cousins had 23 points and 19 rebounds for the Kings, who had won two in a row.

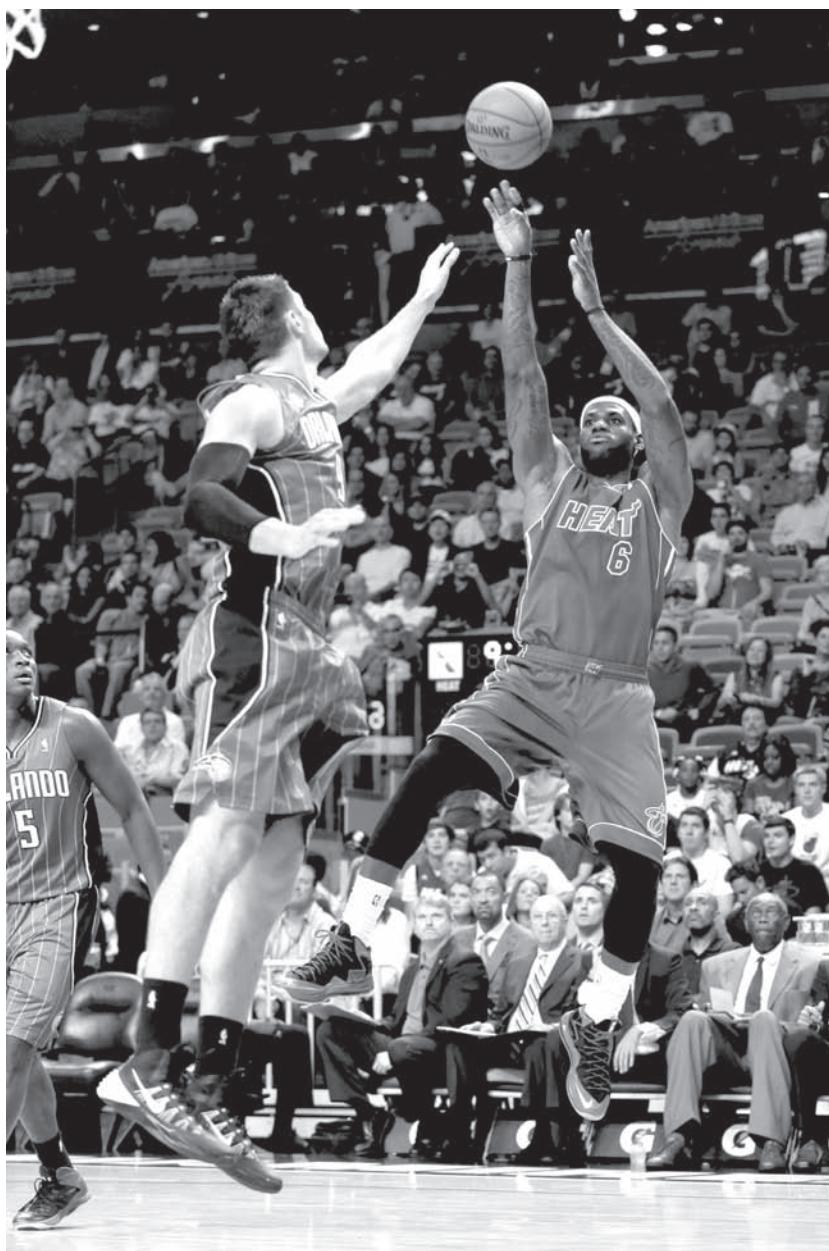
Isaiah Thomas added 22 points, making 11 of 13 free throws, and Patrick Patterson scored 21 points off the bench, combining to outscore the Clippers' reserves.

Trail Blazers 113, Warriors 101

In Oakland, LaMarcus Aldridge had 30 points and 21 rebounds as Portland beat Golden State for its 10th consecutive win.

Aldridge made 11 free throws in the fourth quarter to highlight his sixth double-double this season. Wes Matthews scored 23 points before getting ejected, one of three players tossed out following a fracas between the teams in the third quarter.

Bay Area native Damian Lillard add-



Miami Heat small forward LeBron James (6) shoots against Orlando Magic center Nikola Vucevic (9) in the first quarter of an NBA basketball game, Saturday, Nov. 23, 2013, in Miami.

ed 20 points and nine assists for Portland, which overcame a double-digit deficit for the second straight game.

Klay Thompson scored 30 points for Golden State. The Warriors, who played without the injured Andre Iguodala, have lost three straight.

Spurs 126, Cavaliers 96

In San Antonio, Danny Green had 17 points as San Antonio had a season-high 16 3-pointers, rolling past Cleveland for its 10th straight victory.

Patty Mills had 15 points, Tony Parker added 12 points and Tiago Splitter and Marco Belinelli each had 10 points for San Antonio (12-1), which tied the best start in franchise history.

The Spurs never trailed while scoring a season high in points.

Andrew Bynum had 16 points, Kyrie Irving added 15 points, Matthew Dellavedova had 14 points and Dion Waiters 11 for Cleveland (4-10). Anthony Bennett, the top overall draft pick, had a season-high nine points.

The Spurs were 16 for 24 on 3s while remaining undefeated at home.

Nuggets 102, Mavericks 100

In Denver, Randy Foye made a go-ahead 3-pointer with 1:11 left as Denver hung on to beat Dallas.

Ty Lawson scored 20 points to lead the Nuggets, who won their fifth straight at home while ending Dallas'

In Denver, Randy Foye made a go-ahead 3-pointer with 1:11 left as Denver hung on to beat Dallas.

Ty Lawson scored 20 points to lead the Nuggets, who won their fifth straight at home while ending Dallas'

The latest injury rekindled memories of the 2012 playoff opener against Philadelphia, when he crumpled to the court near the end of the game with

four-game winning streak. Kenneth Faried had 18 points and 14 rebounds, and Foye finished 17 points.

Dirk Nowitzki had 27 points but missed a shot at the end that would have sent the game into overtime.

Monta Ellis added 25 points and Vince Carter had 16 for the Mavericks, who were without coach Rick Carlisle for most of the game after he drew two technical fouls in succession and was ejected by referee Tony Brothers with 5:14 remaining in the second quarter.

Rockets 112, Timberwolves 101

In Houston, Aaron Brooks scored a season-high 26 points to pick up the slack for the injured James Harden as Houston beat Minnesota.

The Rockets led throughout, and Omri Casspi, Jeremy Lin and Brooks made consecutive 3-pointers in a 9-0 run to start the fourth quarter and extend the lead to 91-74.

Harden, who leads the Rockets with 24.2 points per game, sat out with a sore left foot. Lin started in his place and scored 19, but it was Brooks who shined.

Brooks, who entered the game averaging 2.8 points, had a big second quarter, making four 3-pointers and scoring 16 points. He finished with six 3-pointers.

Kevin Love had 27 points and 15 rebounds, and Corey Brewer scored 22 for the Timberwolves.

Celtics 94, Hawks 87

In Atlanta, Brandon Bass had 17 points, seven rebounds and two key blocks as Boston surged past Atlanta.

Jeff Green had 16 points and Jared Sullinger scored 15 points and grabbed nine rebounds as the Celtics snapped a six-game losing streak.

Al Horford led the Hawks with 18 points and seven rebounds, and Jeff Teague had 13 points and 10 assists. Atlanta had won four of five games before losing for just the second time this season at home.

The Celtics outrebounded the Hawks 47-38 and held the Hawks to 38.7 percent shooting.

Trailing 85-84 with 3:17 to play, the Celtics scored seven straight to take a 91-85 lead with 46 seconds to play.

Pacers 106, 76ers 98

In Indianapolis, Roy Hibbert had 27 points and 13 rebounds, Paul George added 19 points as Indiana beat Phila-

delphia.

Michael Carter-Williams scored 29 points and Evan Turner had 21 points and 11 rebounds for the short-handed 76ers. Spencer Hawes, the team's second-leading scorer, didn't dress because of a sore left knee and Tony Wroten (back) and Thaddeus Young (personal) didn't travel with the team, leaving the Sixers with just nine players in uniform.

Lance Stephenson added 18 points and David West had 17 points and 11 rebounds in Indiana's third straight win, while George Hill finished with 11 points. The Pacers (12-1) are 7-0 at home.

James Anderson scored 13 in the Sixers' fifth loss in six games and fourth straight road loss.

Wizards 98, Knicks 89

In Washington, taking their poor play at home with them on the road, the New York Knicks allowed Washington's John Wall to score 31 points and dropped into a last-place tie in the Atlantic Division with a loss to the Wizards.

Wall registered at least 30 points in consecutive games for the first time in his NBA career, after scoring 37 in a loss to Toronto on Friday. The No. 1 overall pick in the 2010 draft also had seven assists and a soaring block on Iman Shumpert's layup attempt in the closing seconds.

Washington has won three of four games and is 5-8. The Knicks fell to 3-9, the same record as the Brooklyn Nets.

Marcin Gortat added 16 points and 17 rebounds for the Wizards, while Martell Webster scored 19, and Bradley Beal 18. That made up for a paltry six points from Washington's reserves.

Carmelo Anthony led New York with 23 points and 12 rebounds, and J.R. Smith scored 15.

Bobcats 96, Bucks 72

In Milwaukee, Al Jefferson scored 19 points, Gerald Henderson added 17 as Charlotte handed Milwaukee its eighth straight loss.

Jefferson, in his second game back from an ankle injury, added seven rebounds for Charlotte, which has won two of three.

Khris Middleton had 20 points for the Bucks, who shot just 35 percent. Milwaukee's losing streak is its longest since closing out the 2007-08 season with eight consecutive losses.

over Brooklyn before falling to Miami.

Along the way, his image took a hit.

Adidas released videos documenting his progress, but Rose mostly stayed in the background, saying little about his recovery. That changed midway through the season.

There was also speculation of a rift with the organization after older brother Reggie Rose ripped management for standing pat at the trade deadline, but Derrick Rose denied that.

All those issues faded into the background with Rose back this season. He had insisted he was.

Bulls' Rose needs knee surgery, out indefinitely

CHICAGO (AP)—Chicago Bulls superstar Derrick Rose is out indefinitely because of torn cartilage in his right knee that will require surgery, the team said Saturday.

The former MVP has a medial meniscus tear and there's no immediate timetable for his return.

Rose had an MRI in Los Angeles on Saturday after he was injured a night earlier at Portland. He won't be with the team for its remaining four games on its six-game trip.

The three-time All-Star sat out last season recovering from a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee. Now, it's his other knee that's injured.

"It's sad, knowing how hard he worked to get back," said All-Star guard Chris Paul of the Clippers, who will host the Bulls on Sunday.

Rose's injury occurred in the third quarter against the Trail Blazers.

He lost his footing while trying to change direction to get back on defense when Nicolas Batum stole a pass from Joakim Noah and started the other way. Rose limped across the court and couldn't put any weight on his knee. After the Blazers scored, he came out of the game during a timeout.

It didn't appear there was any

contact on the play. Rose was unable to return and was on crutches afterward.

"I feel bad for him," said Clippers All-Star Blake Griffin, who tore his meniscus in college at Oklahoma and was playing a few days later. "The good news is it's not nearly as bad as what he went through (before)."

Even though the injury isn't as serious as a torn ACL, losing Rose for any chunk of time is obviously a huge blow for a team expecting to challenge LeBron James and the Miami Heat for supremacy in the Eastern Conference with its franchise player back.

"That helps that locker room because they know there's a return date," said Clippers coach Doc Rivers, who is close friends with Bulls coach Tom Thibodeau. "With ACLs, there's no return date."

The Bulls (6-5) were even eyeing a championship run for the first time since the Michael Jordan-Scottie Pippen era.

Now, there's a big cloud hanging over the franchise. And once again, it centers on Rose.

The latest injury rekindled memories of the 2012 playoff opener against Philadelphia, when he crumpled to the court near the end of the game with

a torn ACL in his left knee. That sent the top-seeded Bulls toward a first-round exit and put them in a holding pattern last season while their star recuperated.

Many thought he would return at some point, particularly after he started practicing without restrictions. Instead, his recovery took on almost a circus-like feel.

Fans saw him shooting and dunking before games last season and wondered why he wasn't playing. Meanwhile, the Bulls fought injuries and illnesses on the way to 45 wins and a first-round playoff victory

McCann, Yankees near 5-year, \$85M deal



NEW YORK (AP)—Free-agent catcher Brian McCann and the New

York Yankees are about to complete a five-year deal worth around \$85 million, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press on Saturday night.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the deal wasn't finalized. The contract is expected to include a vesting option worth \$15 million. The deal's completion is pending a physical.

In an already brisk offseason throughout the majors, the McCann move would be the first major addition for the Yankees since they missed the

NFL investigator: First round of interviews finished



NEW YORK (AP)—The lawyer conducting the NFL's investigation into possible bullying on the Miami Dolphins wrapped up an opening series of interviews with every player and coach, along with others who work for the team.

A statement released Saturday by Ted Wells' law firm added: "Our work will continue over the next few weeks."

The league had not given an indication how long the inquiry might last.

Dolphins tackle Jonathan Martin says he was harassed daily by teammates, including fellow offensive lineman Richie Incognito.

Martin left the Dolphins on Oct. 28.

Incognito was suspended indefinitely by the team on Nov. 3, and will miss his third consecutive game Sunday when the Dolphins play the Carolina Panthers.

On Thursday, Incognito agreed to postpone his grievance hearing challenging the suspension until Wells completes his investigation. In a statement, Incognito said he would cooperate fully with Wells, with a goal of rejoining the Dolphins.

"We have concluded our initial round of interviews with the Miami Dolphins and spent time with every player and coach, as well as key staff members and management," Saturday's statement from Wells said.

He went on to thank Dolphins owner Stephen Ross and "players, coaches and staff for their complete cooperation throughout this process."

Wells met last week with Martin in New York.

Martin, a second-year pro from Stanford, has said he wants to play football again. He has been with family in California undergoing treatment for emotional issues.

Incognito has said he regrets racist and profane language he used with Martin, but said it stemmed from a culture of locker room "brotherhood," not bullying.

Wells is expected to determine the roles of coach Joe Philbin, other coaches and Miami's front office, and the NFL has said his final report will be made public.

Ross has acknowledged that changes are needed and formed two committees to study the team's locker room culture.



Free-agent catcher Brian McCann and the New York Yankees are about to complete a five-year deal worth around \$85 million, according to The Associated Press sources.

playoffs for only the second time in 19 years. They finished fourth in the AL East this year.

The Yankees made finding a catcher a priority, and McCann was the best available. The seven-time All-Star played all nine of his big league seasons with the Atlanta Braves, hitting at least 20 homers for a sixth straight season before choosing to test the market after the World Series.

The 29-year-old McCann returned from offseason shoulder surgery in April and hit .256 with 57 RBIs in 356 at-bats for the NL East champions.

The Braves will receive a compensatory pick between the first and second round of the June draft because McCann turned down their \$14.1 million qualifying offer.

The Yankees relied heavily on career backup Chris Stewart last year

after Francisco Cervelli was injured, then suspended 50 games. They had let Gold Glove catcher Russell Martin leave as a free agent in a cost-cutting move before the 2013 season.

McCann bats left-handed, always a bonus for power hitters at Yankee Stadium with the short right field fence. He is a career .277 hitter with 176 home runs and 661 RBIs.

The Yankees still have their own free-agent business to deal with. Star second baseman Robinson Cano is on the market and seeking a contract worth up to \$300 million, and the Yankees have said they won't go that high.

New York hopes to get under the 2014 tax threshold of \$189 million for 2014. Not including McCann's deal, New York's luxury tax payroll so far is \$97.1 million for seven

signed players next year.

Several teams have been busy since the season ended.

The Detroit Tigers sent first baseman Prince Fielder to the Texas Rangers for second baseman Ian Kinsler in a swap of All-Stars with rich contracts, and the St. Louis Cardinals traded former World Series MVP David Freese to the Los Angeles Angels. Philadelphia recently re-signed Carlos Ruiz, taking another top free-agent catcher off the market.

Cardinals trade Freese to Angels

In St. Louis, Former World Series MVP David Freese was traded by his hometown St. Louis Cardinals to the Los Angeles Angels in a four-player deal Friday that reunites Albert Pujols with a pair of ex-teammates.

In a conference call with media,

A-Rod, MLB await decision, expected in January

NEW YORK (AP)—Now the waiting begins for Alex Rodriguez and Major League Baseball.

A-Rod's grievance hearing to overturn his 211-game suspension ended Thursday when both sides rested their cases, a day after the New York Yankees third baseman angrily walked out and decided not to testify in his own defense.

The sides set a schedule to file briefs by Dec. 11 and reply briefs by Dec. 21, which will close the record and submit the matter to arbitrator Fredric Horowitz.

His decision on whether to uphold or alter the discipline for the three-time AL MVP likely will be made in January, a person familiar with the proceedings told The Associated Press. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because no statements were authorized.

Rodriguez's lawyers already are vowing to challenge the ruling in federal court, where judges usually are reticent to overturn an arbitration decision unless there is a finding the arbitrator was biased, exceeded his authority or failed to comply with the rules

agreed to by the parties.

The exact timing of a decision is uncertain. Baseball's Joint Drug Agreement states the arbitrator shall make "all reasonable efforts" to close the record in time to permit a decision within 25 days of the start of the hearing. But in this case, the hearing began Sept. 30, making that timetable impossible to meet.

After the arbitrator renders his decision, the written opinion is to be issued within 30 days. It is unclear if Horowitz will issue his written opinion simultaneously with his decision.

The timing of the case could complicate planning for the Yankees, who don't know if they will have to pay Rodriguez his \$25 million salary and are unsure whether they will need a different starting third baseman.

Rodriguez was suspended by MLB on Aug. 5 for alleged violations of baseball's drug policy and labor agreement stemming from the league's investigation of the Biogenesis of America anti-aging clinic in Florida. The players' association filed a griev-

ance, and because Rodriguez was a first-time offender of the drug agreement, the discipline automatically was stayed pending a resolution of the grievance.

Horowitz heard the case in a trio of four-day sessions, with management presenting its case from Sept. 30-Oct. 3 and Oct. 15-18. Rodriguez's side then took its turn during the first four days of this week.

While Horowitz had set aside six additional days for testimony through Wednesday, that time was not needed.

Rodriguez left in the middle of the 11th session Wednesday, furious the arbitrator refused to order baseball Commissioner Bud Selig to testify. Rodriguez and his lawyers then went on radio and television, accusing Selig of bias and the entire arbitration process of being flawed.

His lawyers returned without him Thursday to complete their case, and MLB started and finished its rebuttal. At the end of the hearing, the sides learned union head Michael Weiner had died from the brain tumor he was

Freese said he got a welcoming text from Pujols and responded with a reference to the 2011 World Series: "Remember what we did the last time we played together? Let's go try to do that again."

Freese didn't think his drop-off in production last season had anything to do with the pressure of being the "hometown kid."

"Obviously, I'm a little sad closing this chapter, but I'm extremely pumped about joining the Angels," Freese said. "If it was going to go down, I wanted it to happen on a team like the Angels."

St. Louis obtained a new starting center fielder in Peter Bourjos, plus outfield prospect Randal Grichuk. The Cardinals also sent reliever Fernando Salas to the Angels.

"Overall, we just felt this was a very compelling deal to make," Cardinals general manager John Mozeliak said.

Freese's departure did not come as a surprise.

"I definitely would look myself in the mirror and say, 'Where am I going to be in March?'" Freese said. "I was ready to go anywhere. I'm excited to get this going."

The 30-year-old was the MVP of the 2011 NL championship series and the World Series, setting a major league record with 21 postseason RBIs and hitting a game-ending, 11th-inning home run in Game 6.

Freese injured his back chasing a foul ball into the stands during spring training this year and never hit stride. He hit only .179 in this year's post-season, going 3-for-19 (.158) with no RBIs in the six-game loss to Boston in the World Series.

"David, growing up in St. Louis, this could not have been the easiest place to play," Mozeliak said. "I do think he may be looking forward to a fresh start. This was not an easy year for him."

Freese batted .262 with nine homers and 60 RBIs, a letdown from career bests of 20 homers, 79 RBIs and a .293 average the previous year. Freese made \$3.15 million and is eligible for salary arbitration.

diagnosed with 15 months ago.

Outside MLB's offices, representatives of the New York Hispanic Clergy Organization, including state Sen. Ruben Diaz, held a prayer vigil to express opposition to Rodriguez's discipline.

Rodriguez lawyer James McCarroll issued a statement Thursday pointing out that this case is the first grievance under the drug agreement involving discipline that didn't stem from a positive test and involved "the commissioner's discretion and decision-making." While he said the commissioner in the past "was harshly criticized in the arbitrator's decision for not voluntarily appearing at a grievance," that statement appears to refer to arbitrator George Nicolau's 1987 decision cutting Peter Ueberroth's drug suspension of pitcher LaMarr Hoyt from one season to 60 days.

While Horowitz has issued an order for the proceeding to be confidential, Rodriguez's lawyers are considering making some of the evidence public. Rodriguez spokesman Ron Berkowitz said Friday nothing would be released until next week.

NMIVA donates to MCS' volleyball program

Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association (NMIVA) donated new volleyball equipment to Mount Carmel School.

Earlier this month, MCS teachers/coaches Tomoko Shimizu, Francis San Nicola, and Joe Taijeron met with NMIVA representatives, requesting support to enhance the Knight' junior high and high school volleyball teams, as well as their physical education classes.

NMIVA immediately responded to the request with vice president and director of training programs and technical development Gabriel White and NMIVA member and installation expert Tyce Mister visiting the Mount Carmel School campus.

With the help of MCS maintenance staff Danilo Chan, a new volleyball net was installed and MCS received 10 volleyballs courtesy of the Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC) and Japan Volleyball Association (JVA) Volleyball Bank and 10 brand new Mikasa MVA200 official volleyballs. The equipment was made possible through the FIVB (Fédération Internationale de Volleyball), which granted



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mt. Carmel School's Jared Sablan returns to Saipan International School during a game in the MISO league last month at the Marianas High School Gymnasium. The Knights recently received new volleyball equipment from NMIVA.

BIKERS

From Page 28

race favorite Butch Sublemente, who settled for third place after submitting 1:55:01.37.

Castro's time was also the fastest among the around 40 bikers who joined the 50K race that aimed to prepare local riders for next month's Hell of Marianas Century Cycle Race. The Marianas High School sophomore will be doing the entire 100-kilometer around the island race and is aim-

ing to break the three-hour barrier. Castro clocked in at 3:17:05.75 in last year's Hell of Marianas.

While Castro ruled the MTB race in the PIC Bike For Life, Dizon lorded it over in the road bike category. Dizon made it to the finish line just less than a minute behind Castro after recording 1:55:01.37. It was also a close win for Dizon, as division runner-up Dencio Bautista came in at the 1:55:01.68. Ricky Suba rounded out the Top 3 after registering 1:59:24.

PICT

From Page 28

59-51 advantage at the end of the third to a 28-point winning margin. With Ballesteros on fire, PIC exploded for 36 points, while Degree had only 16 markers and fell to a 3-5 record, dropping its last five games.

PIC improved to a 2-7 record for fifth place in the team standings. Only the Top 4 teams after the double-round robin regular season will advance to the playoffs and PIC must win its last game against Armatech tomorrow and pray that Degree loses to Laguna and Blue Haus and Shakir Realty drops its final game to force a tie for the fourth spot with Degree. Organizers have yet to announce the tie-break rules, but in case PIC and Degree have a standoff and winning margin in their two outings are considered, they will still end up even, as the latter prevailed against the former by 28-points, too, in their first meeting, 84-56.

PIC boosted its chances to avenging its first round defeat to Degree after getting off to a good start, 25-12. Ballesteros unloaded four triples in the opening canto to lift PIC to a 25-12 advantage. Degree then made little

headway in the second canto behind its balance offense to slice the deficit to single-digit, 39-31, and remained in contention in the third before losing steam in the fourth and allowing Ballesteros open looks from downtown.

James Abuy backed up Ballesteros, as he also nailed a couple of triples and finished with 28 points, while Ed Garcia paced Degree with his 12 markers.

Armatach 84, Shakir Realty 59

Also earning a double-digit winning margin was Armatach, which whipped Shakir Realty (2-7) last Thursday.

Armatach got its fourth win in eight games despite falling behind early. The defending champion made only four field goals in the first quarter to face a 9-23 deficit. Ernie Moises and Joseino Cano teamed up in helping Shakir Realty surprise Armatach in the first quarter, combining for 20 points.

However, Cano and Moises were held to one basket apiece in the second quarter where Armatach started its comeback bid. Armatach drew at least two fieldgoal apiece from four different players to move within five at the end of the

first half, 34-39.

Armatach went on to complete the come-from-behind win in the second half, as after forcing a deadlock in the third, 53-all, it outgunned Shakir Realty in the fourth period, 36-16. Yosh Gabaldon led Armatach in the final canto, scoring 11 points, including 9 straight markers past the halfway mark of the pivotal fourth.

Meanwhile, results of the two other games last week will be reported in *Saipan Tribune's* Tuesday edition.

Thursday's Game

Armatach 84 – Moreno 16, Gabaldon 15, Berline 14, Pineda 11, Montano 6, Ebuen 6, Poquiz 3, Canedo 3, Detera 2.

Shakir Realty 59 – Moises 20, Canoy 19, Patawaran 9, Srima 9, Conti 5, Montes 4.

Scoring by quarters: 9-23, 34-39, 53-53, 84-69.

Saturday's Game

PIC 95 – Ballesteros 39, Abuy 28, Tolentino 10, Apasan 7, Bartolo 4, Reyes 2.

D&Q Degree 67 – Garcia 12, Pablo 11, Ocampo 11, Drilon 9, de la Torre 8, Rabago 7, Mejia 6, Valdez 2.

Scoring by quarters: 25-12, 39-32, 59-51, 95-67.

NMIVA a volleyball cooperation program grassroots course earlier this year.

"NMIVA received several nets and volleyballs through the FIVB's Grassroots VCP course," White said. "It's a tremendous help for our developing national federation because thanks to the FIVB and the AVC we are able to reach out to schools in the Northern Mariana Islands that are not only in need, but have the passion to grow our sport of vol-

leyball. One of NMIVA's goals is to support all NMI schools with the necessary equipment to 'keep the ball flying'."

The donated equipment could not have come at a better time as it was presented just before the start of the private school boys' volleyball game between MCS and Saipan International School.

Present to receive the equipment from NMIVA officials were members of the Mount

Carmel School boys and girls volleyball teams, their coaches, and MCS vice principal for curriculum and instruction, Bobby Nelson Baldazo.

NMIVA would like to thank all of the hard working faculty and staff from Mount Carmel School. Special thanks also go to to JVA President Yuichiro Hamu, the JVA, AVC, its volleyball bank, and the FIVB for their continued support to NMIVA. (PR)

PACQUIAO

From Page 28

ral disaster and a national tragedy.

"My journey will continue. I said we will rise again, and that's what happened."

Pacquiao's points loss to Timothy Bradley last year was widely regarded as a judging error, but when that was followed by a severe knockout at the hands of veteran Juan Manuel Marquez, many doubted the Filipino lawmaker could get back to the kind of form that had made him the world's pound-for-pound champion.

Once again he failed to stop his opponent - he has not done so since 2009 - but everything else about Pacquiao's performance suggested he could revive his career, even with his 35th birthday looming next month.

Problems still exist in setting up a much-discussed bout with Floyd Mayweather Jr., but Pacquiao remains eager for it to happen.

"Anybody who wants to fight with me, I can fight," Pacquiao said. "I am willing to fight Floyd, but it's up to him, if he is willing also."

Pacquiao got the better of Rios over the first two rounds, sending the American to the canvas in the opening frame, although the referee ruled it as a slip rather than a knockdown.

Rios asserted himself in the third, landing some crisp blows that raised hopes of a genuine contest. But Pacquiao - spurred on by a capacity crowd at the 13,000-seat Cotai Arena dominated by Filipino fans - controlled the remainder of the contest.

Rios was game, absorbing plenty of punches and continually walking forward to challenge Pacquiao, but was unable to land any significant blows.

After seven rounds, Rios was getting attention to cuts under both eyebrows, and with the scores going against him, needed something special.

Pacquiao was on guard throughout the closing rounds, mindful of getting knocked out in his previous fight when he walked into a savage right by Juan Manuel Marquez. He didn't have to worry. A tiring Rios offered little threat.

"Recovering from the knockout and giving a good show was what I wanted to prove to myself and everyone," Pacquiao said. "I am so happy, my time is not

over."

Rios trained for the bout with the quickest sparring partners his camp could find, but even that could not prepare him for the fusillade of Pacquiao punches from all angles.

"What got me was just the speed and his awkwardness," Rios said. "He never hurt me at all, and I never got stunned at all, but the quickness just caught me off guard."

Pacquiao's trainer, Freddie Roach, was frustrated by another fight without a knockout, but was enthusiastic about his fighter's performance.

"Manny looked great tonight," Roach said. "There were no signs of him slowing down whatsoever."

"Manny let him off the hook, I wanted the knockout and it was there, but I was very happy with the way he performed."

Promoter Bob Arum of Top

Rank said the tentative date for Pacquiao's next fight is April 12, likely in the United States.

A rematch with Bradley or a fight against Russian Ruslan Provodnikov looms as more likely than a rematch with Marquez due to the Mexican's high asking price. Arum also holds out hope that the Mayweather fight could happen.

"I know it's a fight that should happen and where there is a will there is a way," Arum said, expressing his frustration that the fighters' conflicting affiliations continued to be an impediment. "If all sides cut out the crap, it can be done."

Rios, who has now lost his past two bouts after having previously being undefeated, had come up two weight classes in three fights, but said he would now stay at welterweight and perhaps even move up to super welterweight.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

| W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|----|------|----|
| 6 | 7 | .462 | — |
| 6 | 9 | .400 | 1 |
| 5 | 10 | .333 | 2 |
| 3 | 9 | .250 | 2½ |
| 3 | 9 | .250 | 2½ |

Southeast Division

| Team | W | L | Pct | GB |
|------------|----|---|------|----|
| Miami | 10 | 3 | .769 | — |
| Atlanta | 8 | 6 | .571 | 2½ |
| Charlotte | 7 | 7 | .500 | 3½ |
| Washington | 5 | 8 | .385 | 5 |
| Orlando | 4 | 8 | .333 | 5½ |

Central Division

| Team | W | L | Pct | GB |
|-----------|----|----|------|----|
| Indiana | 12 | 1 | .923 | — |
| Chicago | 6 | 5 | .545 | 5 |
| Detroit | 4 | 8 | .333 | 7½ |
| Cleveland | 4 | 10 | .286 | 8½ |
| Milwaukee | 2 | 10 | .167 | 9½ |

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

| Team | W | L | Pct | GB |
|-------------|----|---|------|----|
| San Antonio | 12 | 1 | .923 | — |
| Dallas | 9 | 5 | .643 | 3½ |
| Houston | 9 | 5 | .643 | 3½ |
| Memphis | 7 | 6 | .538 | 5 |
| New Orleans | 6 | 6 | .500 | 5½ |

Northwest Division

| Team | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---------------|----|----|------|----|
| Portland | 12 | 2 | .857 | — |
| Oklahoma City | 8 | 3 | .727 | 2½ |
| Minnesota | 8 | 7 | .533 | 4½ |
| Denver | 6 | 6 | .500 | 5 |
| Utah | 1 | 13 | .071 | 11 |

Pacific Division

| Team | W | L | Pct | GB |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |

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The Week in Sports

Football festival highlights busy week

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The 2013 NMIFA Youth Football Fall Festival gathered the most athletes among the several events held last week.

The fall festival drew around 260 players from Northern Mariana Islands Football Association's seven-member clubs—MP United FC, Paire FC, Shirley's FC, Tinian Premier FC, Tan Holdings FC, Matansa FC, and Kanoa FC. The festival had teams in the U8, U10, and U12 age group playing games at the Koblerville Elementary School and Hopwood Junior High School fields.

Over at the Marianas High School Gymnasium, the MISO caging finals took place with the MHS Lady Dolphins extending their reign in the varsity division after beating Mt. Carmel School in the title game.

At the Airport Field, the Commonwealth Football League Association hosted an exhibition game between

Guam and the CNMI All-Stars with the visitors cruising to a 37-0 victory.

At the Laolao Bay Golf Resort, Korean Geon Ju Lee ruled the A Flight of the 18th Annual Club at the Hyatt Golf Classic Tournament.

At the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan and Hyatt Regency Saipan tennis courts, the 5th Tan Holdings Tennis Classic held its second and final week of competition and crowned champions in the adults singles and doubles events.

At the Gualo Rai Basketball Court, Island Floral and San Antonio kept their unbeaten records in the DL Corp. caging.

At the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium, Blue Haus also maintain its clean slate (8-0) after beating Pacific Islands Club in the UFO Masters caging. Notching wins, too, in the Masters caging were Laguna and Armatech.

At the TSL Sports Complex, Northern Marianas Badminton Association kicked off its season-ending event, the Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

San Antonio's Bryle Alegre pulls up for a shot against Maplas' Edmark Mendoza, left, and Dexter Tenorio during the first quarter of their game in the DL Corp. caging last Friday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Matansa U10 player, left, catches up on defense against an MP United striker during the NMIFA fall festival last week at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Marianas High School's Gabrielle Race looks for a teammate to pass the ball to during their title game against Mt. Carmel School in the MISO caging last week at the MHS Gymnasium.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Participants in the 2013 Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament pose for a group photo after the opening ceremonies last Friday at the TSL Sports Complex.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mikayla Lopez goes for a backhand return against Thea Minor during their title game in the women's open singles event of the Tan Holdings Tennis Classic last week at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts.



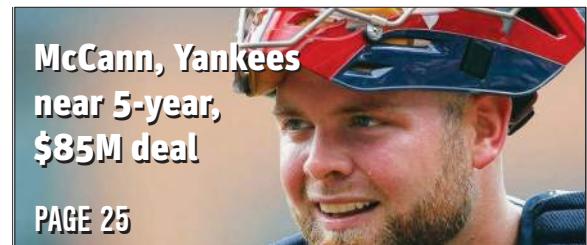
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Paire U8 players and their coach huddle before playing against MP United FC during the NMIFA fall festival last week at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pacquiao beats Rios in unanimous decision

By CHRIS LINES
AP SPORTS WRITER

MACAU (AP)—Manny Pacquiao reversed the decline in his boxing career and provided some desperately needed inspiration to the disaster-stricken Philippines with an authoritative victory over Brandon Rios on Sunday.

Pacquiao entered the fight coming off successive defeats, having spent a year out of the ring and with his own trainer publicly declaring he should retire unless he convincingly beat Rios.

In addition, Pacquiao carried the burden of being the favorite son of the Philippines and the man the nation looked to as a source of joy and hope in the wake of deadly Typhoon Haiyan.

Thousands of fans watched the fight on screens set up in the plaza of Tacloban, the Philippine city hit worst by the Nov. 9 disaster that killed more than 5,000 people and left huge num-

bers of the population homeless. If Pacquiao felt pressure, he didn't show it in the ring at The Venetian casino in Macau, putting on a vintage display of his trademark combinations to wear down a gallant Rios and take a unanimous decision, claiming the WBO international welterweight title.

The judges scored it 120-108, 119-109 and 118-110. The Associated Press scored it 119-109.

"This is not about my comeback," Pacquiao said in the ring. "My victory is a symbol of my people's comeback from a natu-

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Manny Pacquiao, from the Philippines, right, lands a right to Brandon Rios of the United States during their WBO international welterweight title fight Sunday, Nov. 24, 2013, in Macau. Pacquiao defeated Rios by unanimous decision on Sunday to take the title and return to his accustomed winning ways after successive defeats. AP

Bikers take NMASA October awards



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Erico Castro, left, and Nap Dizon, keep each other's company as they head up to Capital Hill during a local race in September this year.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Northern Mariana Island Cycling Federation scored twin wins early this month after two of its members were named NMASA's top athletes for October.

Youth biker Erico Castro was selected as the NMASA/TSL Foundation Male Student Athlete of the Month, while Nap Dizon bagged the NMASA Male Athlete of the Month plum. Both bikers earned the October awards for their outstanding performance in the PIC Bike For Life, a 50-kilometer race held last month.

The 15-year-old Castro joined the MTB division of the PIC Bike For Life and finished on top of his field after making it to the southern parking lot of Pacific Islands Club in 1:54:59. He defeated fellow youth biker Jerome Diyo in a close race to the finish line, as the latter timed in at 1:55:01.06. Besides prevailing against Diyo, Castro also won against veteran and

See BIKERS on Page 26

PIC keeps playoffs bid alive



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Pacific Islands Club's Carlos Ballesteros, seen here battling the rebound with Laguna's Bobby Geli, scored 39 points in their 95-67 win over D&E Degree in the UFO Masters caging last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Pacific Islands Club is still in the playoff race, following a 95-67 demolition of D&E Degree in the curtain raiser in the 2013 UFO-Budweiser Masters Division Basketball

League last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium. Carlos Ballesteros connected one triple after another to lead PIC's victory. He finished with 39 points, scoring all his baskets from beyond the arc. He drilled six treys in the fourth quarter, turning PIC's See PIC on Page 26

